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SHOW YOUR SWEETHEART SOME SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY.

It's the golden age of cocktails, y'all. These indispensable mixing accessories bring out the distinct flavours that give each southern classic its spirit. Learn how to serve your guy or gal a cocktail with just the right amount of southern flair.

1

CITRUS PRESS

Mixing cocktails with fresh fruit just instantly takes you down south, and a citrus press makes it easy to make juice to order. The flavour profile of a cocktail made with fresh juice is completely different. Of course, when it comes to fruit, the fresher the better. Not only does it taste better, it smells better, too.

Screwdriver

2

THE MUDDLER

If an Old–Fashioned is your drink of choice, you'll see the need for a muddler right away: it breaks down the sugars, fruit and the oils in the herb leaves to bring the flavour out. While many people will use a separate glass, try muddling directly in the vessel you're drinking from. The oils will get trapped in the glass, which ultimately sets up our palate.

Rum Old-Fasioned

3

THE JIGGER (AND PONY)

If you want to be a responsible bartender, a jigger will help ensure your drinks don't end up stronger than they need to be. On the one side is a cup that holds exactly 1-1/2 ounces – that's the jigger. The other side holds a half-ounce, which is referred to as the pony. Really, the only mistake you can make with a jigger is not using one.

French Martini

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SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 37
SHOPPERS DRUG MART

LUSTIN' FOR JUSTIN?

ENTER METRO'S 'I BELIEBE IN LOVE' CONTEST FOR A CHANCE TO GET THIS CLOSE TO BIEBS PAGES 24 & 25

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CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Blue Jay knuckleballer R.A. Dickey and the rest of the team go through their first formal workout on Wednesday at Bobby Mattick Training Centre in Dunedin, Fla. Dickey gives teammates bigger, extra-padded catcher's mitts when he joins a new club — but even with the special gloves, hanging on to one of Dickey's deliveries is a challenge. Story, page 48. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cut-the-gravy train picks up Tim Hudak

Ontario's Progressive Conservative Leader says to fix Toronto's transit woes he would have to "root out the waste" PAGE 3

Mizz Barbie is anything but sweet

Professional 42-year-old dominatrix shares her views on the "art" of desire PAGE 4

2013 Oscars just may cure insomnia

Cinematic snoozing seems near epidemic proportions with Lincoln, Les Miserables, The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey and others cited as movies that are good for a snore PAGE 29

Blog exposes sexist views

Madam Premier.
Creator wants to shame those hurling misogynistic comments at female ministers

LUKE SIMCOE
luke.simcoe@metronews.ca

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne is "a lesbian tree hugger." Quebec Premier Pauline Marois, "a dumb b–h." And depending on who you ask, B.C.'s Christy Clark needs to either button up her shirt or simply take it off.

These are the kinds of tweets, Facebook posts and comments you'll find collected at Madam Premier, a new blog dedicated to exposing the vitriol hurled at Canada's female ministers.

"Premiers are the most powerful people in their respective provinces. Their jobs are hard enough without having to be criticized on the basis of their gender," said the blog's owner, Diamond Isinger.

"If I wasn't already involved, this certainly wouldn't encourage me to enter into public life or electoral politics."

A resident of Vancouver and a self-described "policy wonk," Isinger started the blog Tuesday night. By Wednesday afternoon, nearly 3,000 people had visited the site.

The blog is part of a new "naming and shaming" tactic, where activists point fingers at those posting hateful speech online. Last year, a Toronto feminist made headlines for identifying the man behind a violent and misogynistic video game. Shortly after, a Calgary man was fired from his job for mocking Amanda Todd on Facebook.

"Sunlight is the best disinfectant," Isinger said. "I think this kind of behaviour needs to be shamed."

A surprising number of comments — most of which are profane or sexual — appear to be posted under people's real names.

"It signals that we have a culture that's comfortable with this kind of thing. People feel they can say this stuff without repercussion," said Isinger.

York University's Dr. Jennifer Jenson says that by aggregating misogynistic comments, blogs like Madam Premier show that sexism is still a systemic problem.

"It's about compiling it so that it doesn't seem like it's just one guy doing this," she said. "When you see it this way, it's a literal documentation of the different kinds of people who feel compelled to say derogatory things about women in power."

Jenson's research revolves around gender and the Internet, and she says online comments made about female politicians often differ from those directed at men.

"We never say: 'Did you see the bulge in the premier's pants?' That kind of statement doesn't get tweeted," she said.

A veteran of 18 political campaigns, Isinger said there's a relationship between the comments on her blog and the way the media covers female politicians. She feels women leaders are more likely to be sexualized in the press, or have their qualifications called into question.

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‘Root out waste’ before raising new transit cash, Hudak says

Province at the wheel.
PC leader wants to upload TTC subways, LRT to Metrolinx

JESSICA SMITH
jessica.smith@metronews.ca

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak says he’s ready to “get going” on fixing Toronto’s transit woes — but first he wants to “root out the waste.”

“Before we can go ask taxpayers for one more dollar, the provincial government needs to demonstrate we’ve got the current system under control. We need to demonstrate we’re just as responsible for taxpayers’ dollars as they are with their own,” said Hudak in a speech to the Toronto and Region Board of Trade Wednesday.

“So the first step to financing these projects is to root out the waste and strive to find efficiencies and savings in every facet of government.”

Hudak said transportation fixes will require a dedicated source of funding, and he did not rule out revenue tools, such as road tolls.

“And I look forward to your advice on how best to do that,” he said.

The Board of Trade is working on a plan that will outline which revenue tools it believes will be publicly and politically viable that would provide dedicated funding for transit, said president Carol Wilding.

Asked if the board wants to wait for Hudak to “root out the waste” before beginning to raise money to fund transportation, Wilding said the two should be done at the same time.

“Root out the waste, but do it very quickly; it doesn’t need to be a precursor before we introduce and discuss dedicated revenue tools,” she said.

PC Leader Tim Hudak speaks at a Board of Trade luncheon in Toronto on Wednesday. JESSICA SMITH/METRO

Hudak laid out his transportation priorities, which include extending a subway into Richmond Hill, “treating Scarborough like a full citizen of Toronto,” and extending the 427 north.

He would upload Toronto’s subways and LRT lines to Metrolinx, along with the Don Valley Parkway, the Gardiner Expressway, Allen Road and the 400-series highways.

“Under my leadership, Ontario will build subways,” he said.

One reform Hudak is targeting is uploading the responsibility for Toronto’s subways and LRT lines to Metrolinx, from the TTC.

“We have too many backseat drivers in our transit system,” he said. “It’s time the province seizes the wheel. Everyone’s in charge and that means nobody is. So we’ll grab the wheel, provide the direction, get things done. The first step is we’ll upload the subways and the LRT and merge them with the government under Metrolinx.”

Wynne weighs in on opposition’s proposal

- Asked about Tim Hudak’s plan to upload the TTC to Metrolinx, Premier Kathleen Wynne did not rule it out or express support for it.
- “We’re happy to see opposition parties get involved in the important conversation about improving transportation and transit networks in this province. But it’s important to remember that there is a cost associated with uploading the TTC,” she said in a statement.
- “Our government believes that people must be given a seamless way to move between cities and towns within their region, so they can get to their jobs and their families as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

SIU called in after woman injured

A Nissan Infiniti and a damaged bicycle are seen on Queen Street West after a collision with a hydro pole on the north side of Queen at Augusta Avenue on Wednesday. Another car, not seen, collided into a snow bank on the south side of the road.

The Special Investigations Unit, which investigates when someone is seriously injured during an interaction with police, was called in to investigate.

Witnesses said they believe the Infinity pinned a woman and a bicycle against the pole and they saw a police car pursuing the Infinity on Queen Street.

After the crash, police officers pursued a suspect who fled from the Infinity northbound on Augusta, according to witnesses.

Meanwhile, a group of passersby helped push the car away from the pole to free the woman, witnesses reported.

The Toronto Police Service was unable to confirm details of the collision because the Special Investigations Unit has invoked its mandate.

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

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Meet Mizz Barbie: She's been whipping clients into shape for years

Domme bombshell.
As bondage goes mainstream, no one can decide if it's entirely legal

The metal kitchen chairs with soaring backs did seem an odd decorating choice, particularly with bright pink boas draped over top.

But it was the medical equipment in the kitchen that really tipped one off that this was no ordinary condo. There, beneath a large pane of glass, was a stretcher doubling as a dining table.

"It's actually a post-mortem table, for autopsies," a woman later explained in a Yonge Street coffee shop. "And those chairs, as soon as you walk in, they're there to tell you you're just a little man in a big place."

Mizz Barbie, we'll call her (she has asked that her real name not be used for security reasons), has worked as a dominatrix for 20 years, tying up, whipping, humiliating and fulfilling strange desires.

Now 42, she got her start in the industry in her early 20s through a boyfriend who worked as a stripper and did BDSM (bondage, discipline, submission and sadomasochism).

She was a young single mother working in audio engineering, but was curious about her boyfriend's line of work and its subculture. Her career began when she tagged along on a house call he was making.

Mizz Barbie admits she didn't know what she was doing, but says she went with the flow and learned along the way. She and her boyfriend worked together at first before she set out on her own.

"Hell has no fury like Mizz Barbie's. Looking for new submissive slaves to play with, egos to annihilate and wills to crush," reads her ad on an adult website.

Clients are often tied up, sometimes for long periods of time. Bondage has become an art unto itself; the types of knots, the materials used and where a tie is on the client's body can vary the experience.

Mizz Barbie gets as many as 30 calls a week and charges $225 an hour, the average session lasting one to two hours. She claims her clients are typically 45- to 65-year-old white men, "usually in a position of power," including lawyers and judges.

"My theory is that these men come in just to have the burden of that responsibility taken away," said Danielle Lindemann, author of the 2012 book Dominatrix: Gender, Eroticism, and Control in the Dungeon.

Contrary to the common assumption, pro-dommes, as they're known, usually don't have sex with their clients or even remove their clothes. But sexual titillation and satisfaction is a big part of what is being sought. And while dominatrix work is not typically prostitution, it still straddles the line between legal and illegal.

However, while the legality may remain questionable, there is no doubt BDSM has gone increasingly mainstream, thanks in large part to the erotic fiction trilogy Fifty Shades of Grey.

The blockbuster has become synonymous with sexual deviance, and though many pro-dommes say its depiction of BDSM is inaccurate, the books have far more people talking about whips in the bedroom.

Mizz Barbie agreed there is a new curiosity about her line of work. Just recently, she got talking with a group of middle-aged women at the bar, and mentioned she was a dominatrix.

"They were riveted, and it was questions, questions, questions. They said, 'We're not letting you go anywhere.'"

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BDSM in the courts

Straddling a legal line

Brenda Cossman, a University of Toronto professor of sexuality and the law, said such activities might still be considered sex work, even if there is no intercourse.

In 1998, dominatrix Terri-Jean Bedford was found guilty of running a common bawdy house and fined $3,000. As a result of a court challenge that involved Bedford, the common bawdy house law was ruled unconstitutional last year. The Supreme Court of Canada will hear an appeal.

There are also legal issues for BDSM between partners, since much of the activity can cause bodily harm and constitute assault.

Courts are still trying to decide if consent can be a valid defence for assault, Cossman said. Some courts have ruled on injuries resulting from a bar room brawl or a hockey game and decided consent can be a defence for assault if there is "some high purpose being served," she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mizz Barbie Bitch poses for the camera at the Oasis Aqua Lounge Sex Club in Toronto. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Teen charged with manslaughter

St. Aubyn Rodney is believed to be the victim of a shooting on Monday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A 17-year-old boy has been charged with manslaughter in the fatal shooting of a 15-year-old in Toronto.

Det. Mike Carbone said two other people — an 18-year-old man and a boy — are facing breach of recognizance charges in the case. He said St. Aubyn Rodney was in his north-west Toronto apartment with friends on Monday night when a gun was produced and the teen was shot.

Police had earlier said Rodney's name could not be released under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, but Carbone said the teen's parents have since given permission for him to be named.

Ambulance officials have said Rodney was shot in the stomach. They said he didn't have any vital signs while being transferred to hospital, but police said he succumbed to his injuries in hospital.

Carbone said the homicide squad is interviewing witnesses and appealing for more witnesses to come forward.

It's the third time in a month that a minor has been killed by a firearm in the Toronto area. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges dropped

Threatened man calls for officer's firing

A police officer seen on video allegedly threatening to sexually assault a tow-truck driver with two sex toys should be fired, the man said Wednesday.

Jagdis (Mike) Tirbany, 46, of Toronto, says he was distressed that criminal charges against the officer had been dropped.

He said the incident occurred at a north-end OPP detachment where he went last March for fingerprinting in light of an assault charge.

"How many times is he going to get away with something like this?" he said. "They think they have a badge and gun and they can do whatever they want to the public because nobody believes us, the regular citizens."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Old photo points way to story of enduring love

This photo of Sarah Skelley spurred Ancestry.ca's Justin Naidoo to uncover the story of a life and love that had been forgotten. CONTRIBUTED

Discovery. 19th-century Ontario widow's tale taken to exemplify the strength of devotion

PHOEBE HO
For Metro

A century-old photo, a name, a date and a healthy dose of curiosity was all Justin Naidoo needed to uncover what he believes to be a time-transcending love story.

The story of a Beamsville, Ont., woman, born nearly two centuries earlier unfolded when Naidoo found her photo at an antique store during a treasure-hunting excursion.

Her name, Sarah Skelley, and the date the photo was taken were written on the back. But that was all Naidoo, the online marketing co-ordinator at Ancestry.ca, needed.

"I was just curious," he said. "It's a bit of a hobby. I like to just plug in the very limited amount of information I have, and see what comes up."

What he dug up was the life story of Skelley, who was born in 1815. She was the granddaughter of Jacob Beam, the man the township was named after. Records show Skelley married her husband, Robert Skelley, in 1845, and had their son Edgar in 1846. But tragedy hit the young family when Skelley's husband passed away 18 months after Edgar was born.

But what stood out to Naidoo was what happened, or didn't happen, after Robert's death. For the next 48 years, Skelley's love life remained untouched as she lived as a widower until her death.

"She stayed true and devoted to her husband for many years. In fact, the photo was taken as of her 80th birthday," said Naidoo. "Love takes different forms; this one definitely showed the endurance and commitment of love."

Naidoo said Skelley's devotion shows that a much subtler and lasting form of love existed, and probably still does — it's just waiting to be discovered.

"I would like to think that the element of commitment is still alive and well," said Naidoo. "I like to think Canadians are just as romantic as they were 118 years ago."

Romances for the history books

Love takes place at any time, in many forms, as shown throughout history. Here are a few timeless love stories to kick off Valentine's Day:

- During his time away with the army, it was said that Napoleon Bonaparte wrote his wife Josephine passionate letters to express his love. The two eventually divorced, but while Napoleon remarried, it was believed that his love for Josephine never ended.
- Emperor Shah Jahan and Queen Mumtaz Mahal's romance led to the construction of the Taj Mahal, which symbolizes eternal love.
- Prince Edward VIII abdicated the throne to marry U.S. socialite Wallis Simpson.

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Lung recipient to finally dance with DeGeneres

Hélène Campbell will be flying to California this week to appear on the Ellen DeGeneres Show next week.

The 21-year-old Barrhaven, Ont., resident, who spearheaded a global organ-donation awareness campaign on Twitter last year, is excited to finally dance with DeGeneres.

Campbell received a double-lung transplant last April in Toronto after being diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. While on the waiting list, she vowed to dance with DeGeneres after she appeared on the show via Skype last February.

"No idea," said Campbell Wednesday morning when asked what she has planned for her much-anticipated appearance. "Hopefully dancing.

"Ellen has been someone that I've always really loved, and looked up to, and find really inspirational. It's a platform definitely to raise awareness for such a good cause and she helped out with that."

Campbell's interview with DeGeneres will air Tuesday.

"I'm glad I'm going now. I get to get away from the cold," said Campbell with a laugh.

Other family members will be in the audience as well, Campbell said.

JOE LOFARO/METRO IN OTTAWA

Barrhaven, Ont.'s Hélène Campbell is surprised by talk-show host Ellen DeGeneres during a Skype interview. SCREENGRAB/YOUTUBE.COM

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Toronto Maple Leafs fans Gerry Groen, left, and Tim Groen show off some of the merchandise they picked up for the home opener on Jan. 21. A new study shows the team's brand value has dropped by $26 million. RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL's brand the biggest loser in lockout: Study

Blowback. Hockey fans cutting back on season tickets and merchandise, research suggests

While hockey season is back in full swing, it appears many fans have become disenchanted with the NHL and its teams.

According to a study released Wednesday, the lockout has left many Canadian hockey fans feeling slighted, dragging down the league's overall brand value.

Consultancy firm Brand Finance, which tracks the clout of brand names in the real world, estimates that the NHL will lose nearly $328.2 million US in brand value in 2013 as fans spend less money on hockey in the coming year, for an overall post-lockout NHL brand value of $1.56 billion.

By comparison, the NFL has a brand value of $9.13 billion, Major League Baseball $4.4 billion and the NBA $2.74 billion, according to Brand Finance.

Much of the fallout comes from casual hockey fans who have decided to look elsewhere for their entertainment, said Brand Finance managing director Edgar Baum. He said the hockey league has offered what some people deemed too few incentives to return to arenas.

"It is possible to recover (the brand value), but we're not seeing any indication that's going to happen," Baum said.

The brand value report was coupled with a survey of Canadian hockey fans completed by Brand Finance partner Level 5, which showed that 41 per cent of casual hockey fans are feeling "more negatively about the sport" after the most recent lockout.

Kincaid said hockey fans who were surveyed say they plan to cut back on season tickets, branded merchandise and tune in less to TV sports packages from local cable and satellite providers.

The study contradicts recent evidence that Canadian fans are more rabid about hockey than they've been in years.

Hockey Night in Canada delivered its best viewership numbers by a long shot last month, coming in 16 per cent higher than the previous record set in 2007. The program drew 3.32 million viewers on Jan. 19, partly on the lure of the Canadiens and Leafs playing out their rivalry. Broadcast numbers for hockey have remained solid for weeks.

The NHL has tried to calm disgruntled fans since the games resumed, offering up discounted tickets, free snacks and sports memorabilia giveaways. The league also took out full-page advertisements in newspapers last month apologizing to fans and encouraging them to return to the games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brand bashing

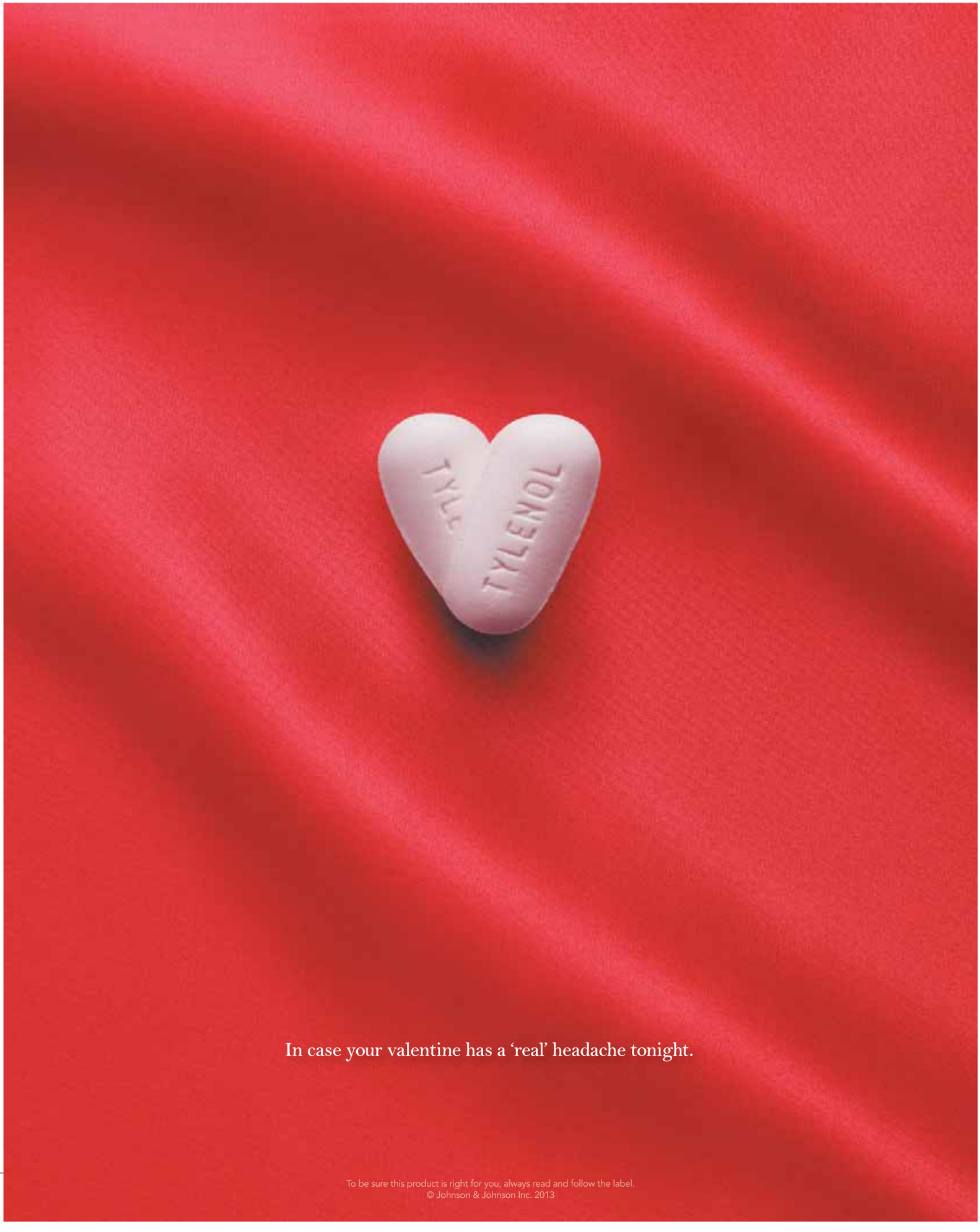
"We haven't seen negative emotions attached to a brand like this since the BP oil spill."

David Kincaid, managing partner and CEO of Level 5

Canadian teams

Overall, Canadian teams saw $125 million shaved off their brand value.

- Among the most valuable Canadian teams, the Toronto Maple Leafs lost $26 million US in brand value, down to $141 million; the Montreal Canadiens dropped $36 million, to $126 million; and the Vancouver Canucks lost $26.6 million, to $89.6 million, the report said.



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Climate: Follow Obama, feds told

Canada and the U.S. must move fast on climate, says David Jacobson.
RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Challenge to Tories.
U.S. president's call for swift action must be taken to heart by Ottawa, envoy says

President Barack Obama's State of the Union message to act swiftly on climate change is a challenge to Ottawa as well, says the U.S. ambassador to Canada.

Obama used Tuesday's speech to present Congress with a choice: Either agree to market-based solutions to climate change, or else the president will use his executive powers to achieve the same result.

Ambassador David Jacobson said the message to move more aggressively against climate change was meant as much for Canada as it was for the United States.

Quoted

"I don't feel any different than I did before the speech."
Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver

"We all need to do as much as we can. And that is true in your country and in mine," Jacobson said.

"Obviously the more that the energy industry — whether it is the oilsands in Canada or the energy industry in the United States, or any place else — the more progress they can make to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, to reduce their consumption of water, to other environmental consequences, the better off we all are."

It was the signal many environmentalists in Canada have been waiting for.

"I see opportunity," said Megan Leslie, the NDP's environment critic. "Canadians have not been well-represented by our government on action on climate change.

"Fortunately for Canadians, though, the Harper Conservatives will have little choice but to follow suit or risk our trading relationship with our biggest partner."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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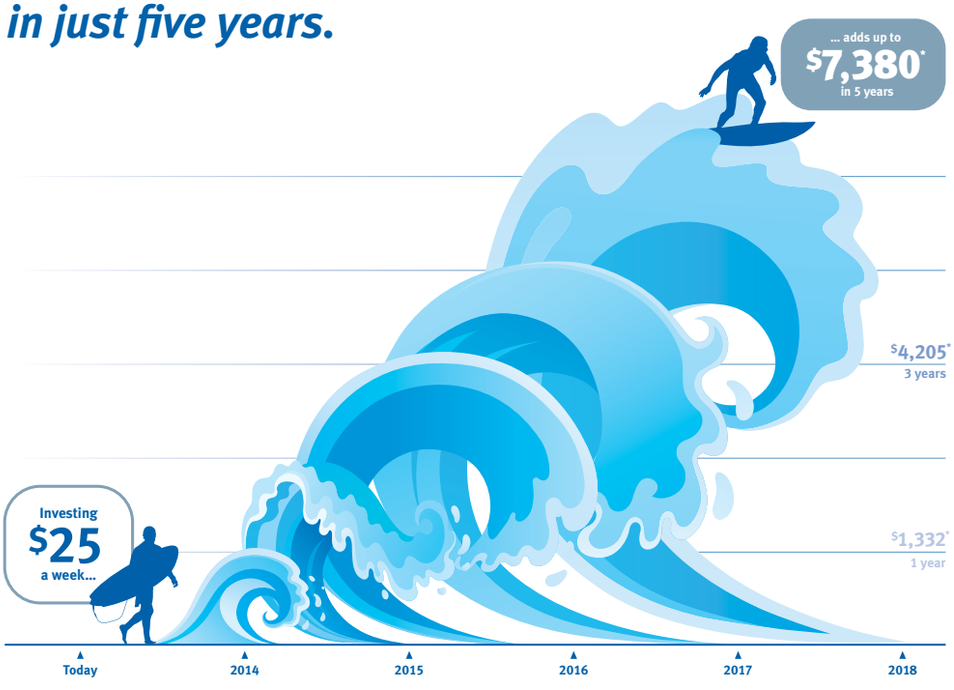

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Their enthusiasm flagged

These Ottawa radio hosts were so touched by a Metro story about the weather-beaten flag, inset, flying over the grave of former prime minister Lester B. Pearson that they decided to replace it with a crisp new one. They travelled to the MacLaren Cemetery in Wakefield, Que. ... only to find the federal government had replaced it already.

JOE LOFARO/METRO IN OTTAWA

No severance pay

Military kicks out naval spy Delisle

Jeffrey Delisle, the naval officer who spied for the Russians, was stripped of his commission and service decorations and kicked out of the military Wednesday.

National Defence said he will forfeit his severance pay. And the federal government will move to recover the salary paid to him since his arrest in January 2012.

Delisle's disclosure of secret information was intolerable and inexcusable, said Defence Minister Peter MacKay.

Delisle was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Billboard study

Can these words cause a crash?

A University of Alberta researcher wants to put the brakes on billboards with negative words.

Michelle Chan put students into a driving simulator and tested their skills behind the wheel.

The test asked subjects to drive down a computer-generated road as ads appeared with negative, positive and neutral words.

Words such as cancer, war and abuse caused most of the drivers to veer outside their lane. Some drivers crashed into trees, other vehicles and pedestrians.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Moscow

Russia plans to continue shipping arms to Syria

Russia will keep supplying weapons to Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime despite the country's escalating civil war, the head of Russia's state arms trader said Wednesday.

Anatoly Isaikin, the director of Rosoboronexport, said Russia sees no need to stop its arms trade with Syria as the trade isn't prohibited by the United Nations. He dismissed western criticism of Russian arms sales to Assad's regime, saying his company has only delivered defensive weapons.

Russia also held out the prospect of bringing the two sides in the Syrian conflict together for talks. "We are prepared to provide the venue for Syrian talks if they want to meet in Moscow," said Mikhail Bogdanov, a deputy foreign minister. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington

Bill would extend immigration rules to gay couples

The head of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee wants the government to start affording gay married couples the same immigration benefits that heterosexual couples now enjoy.

On Wednesday, Sen. Patrick Leahy, a Democrat, introduced the Uniting Families Act, a bill that would provide spousal immigration benefits to same-sex couples. Leahy discussed the bill briefly during a committee hearing on immigration reform.

Because the federal government does not currently recognize same-sex marriages, U.S. citizens cannot sponsor their same-sex partners for immigration benefits, including green cards.

The Supreme Court is set to take up three gay-marriage cases later this year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plane crash in Ukraine leaves 4 dead

Champions League match. Passengers on wrecked flight were headed to soccer game

A passenger plane carrying soccer fans headed for a match skidded past the landing strip and overturned in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk on Wednesday, killing four people, injuring two and leaving the fate of two others unknown, officials said.

The small, Soviet-designed AN-24 plane was carrying 45 people from the Black Sea port of Odesa, according to emergency officials. It was not immediately clear what caused the crash landing, Emergency Situations Ministry spokeswoman Inna Sedova told The Associated Press.

Donetsk Gov. Andrei Shishatsky said that rescuers had located one of the missing people in the wreckage of the plane but were still unsure whether the person was alive, the Interfax news agency reported.

Shishatsky spokeswoman Rimma Fil said that most of the passengers were likely heading for Wednesday night's Champions League soccer match between Ukraine's Shakhtar and Borussia Dortmund. The match opened with a minute of silence in memory of the dead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bad reputation

- In recent years, former Soviet republics have had some of the world's worst air-traffic safety records. Experts blame that record on aircraft age, weak government controls, poor pilot training and a cost-cutting mentality.

Saying goodbye to a slain officer

Police patrol cars and motorcycles escort the hearse containing the casket of officer Michael Crain outside the Grove Community Church in Riverside, Calif., Wednesday. The 34-year-old Crain was ambushed in his patrol car on Feb. 7. Authorities believe the shooter was ex-Los Angeles police officer Christopher Dorner, who'd written a manifesto expressing anger over his firing by the LAPD. Dorner is believed to have died in a fire on Tuesday. DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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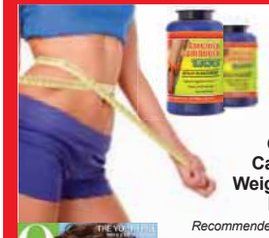

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Rest easy, Canada! Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird, pictured in the Commons on Wednesday, says the country will remain a zombie-free zone. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dead-ly force! Tories promise to zap zombies

Commons kerfuffle.
Forget jobs, the economy, education: Our elected MPs were too busy talking about the undead

Will zombies ever take over Parliament Hill?

Never!

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird is on the case.

Baird assured the House of Commons that Canada remains a zombie-free zone.

The odd exchange came Wednesday near the end of the daily question period.

Winnipeg New Democrat Pat Martin raised the matter of a Quebec government disaster-planning exercise that used a mock zombie invasion as its premise.

B-movie templates of an invasion of the "living dead" have also been used for emergency-preparedness drills in the United States.

"I don't need to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that zombies don't recognize borders," Martin warned the House, tongue planted firmly in cheek.

Is the foreign minister, asked the NDP MP, working with his American partners "to develop an international zombie strategy so that a zombie invasion does not turn into a zombie apocalypse?" Baird rose to the occasion with an equally glib response, telling the House that he was "dead-icated" to the matter.

"Under the leadership of this prime minister, Canada will never become a safe haven for zombies, ever," said Baird.

But he couldn't resist resurrecting an undead Tory talking point that has lurched through the parliamentary corridors for months: the NDP's fictional carbon tax, which a smiling Baird said would raise the cost of zombie-related emergency provisions — including monster trucks — for all Canadians.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I don't need to tell you ... zombies don't recognize borders."
Pat Martin
New Democrat MP

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Tennesssssee

Pastor wants his deadly snakes back

An eastern Kentucky pastor wants Tennessee wildlife officials to return five venomous snakes confiscated in Knoxville, Tenn.

Gregory Coots, who's known as Jamie Coots, is pastor of at the Full Gospel Tabernacle in Jesus Name Church in Middlesboro, Ky. Coots handles the snakes as part of worship services.

He told a television station he bought three rattlesnakes and two copperheads in Alabama on Jan. 31. While he was driving through Knoxville, police stopped Coots for dark window tinting and saw the cages containing the snakes. A state wildlife officer confiscated them.

Coots is charged with illegally possessing and transporting wildlife. He was similarly charged in Kentucky in 2008, but said he now has a permit for snakes in Kentucky.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

United Arab Emirates

World's biggest Ferris wheel to be built in Dubai

Dubai's ruler has approval a $1.6-billion US island development project that would be home to what's billed as the world's biggest Ferris wheel.

The official WAM news agency said Wednesday that the Ferris wheel, dubbed the Dubai Eye, will stand 210 metres, exceeding the London Eye's 135 metres. Construction is set to begin this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The London Eye will be dwarfed by a planned Ferris wheel in Dubai. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Wonky ship will be out of commission through April, Carnival says

Not such a Triumph. Cruise line nixes 12 more voyages aboard ship stranded in Gulf

Carnival Cruise Lines has cancelled voyages through April aboard the Triumph, a ship that has been plagued by mechanical problems in recent weeks and was finally left powerless in the Gulf of Mexico after an engine-room fire.

Carnival's announcement of the 12 cancelled trips came Wednesday as the Triumph was being towed by two tugboats to a port in Mobile, Ala., with more than 4,000 people on board, some of whom have told relatives that conditions on the ship are dismal and that they have limited access to food and bathrooms. Two other cruises were called off shortly after Sunday's fire.

Carnival disputes accounts that the ship is filthy, saying it's doing everything to make sure passengers are comfortable.

Weather permitting, the Triumph should arrive in Mobile sometime Thursday.

Debbi Smedley, a passenger on a recent Triumph cruise, said the ship had trouble on Jan. 28 as it was preparing to leave Galveston, Texas. Hours before the scheduled departure time, she received an email from Carnival stating the vessel would leave late because of a propulsion problem. Passengers were asked to arrive at the port at 2 p.m., two hours later than originally scheduled.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A coast-guard boat patrols near the cruise ship Carnival Triumph in the Gulf of Mexico on Monday. The ship was left floating aimlessly after an engine room fire knocked out its propulsion system. The Triumph, with 4,000 people aboard, is being towed to Mobile, Ala. and is expected to arrive Thursday.

LT. CMDR. PAUL MCCONNELL/U.S. COAST GUARD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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To gamble is not divine, says Quebec lotto commission

Papal search. Betting on the new pope ruled out as bookies deem French-Canadian cardinal a top pick

Odds are good that Quebec's Marc Cardinal Ouellet will be the next pope. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

All bets are off in Quebec as to whether a local becomes the next pope.

The provincial lottery commission says it will not follow the lead of some foreign gambling houses that allow people to place bets on who might inherit St. Peter's throne.

The organization isn't swayed by the fact that a fellow Quebecer, Marc Cardinal Ouellet, just so happens to be the favourite or among the top picks, according to bookmakers.

While Loto-Quebec recently branched out beyond sports gambling by introducing betting on the upcoming Oscars, a spokesman said Wednesday it has no plans to get into religion.

"Loto-Quebec has no intention to offer betting on the identity of the next pope," said spokesman Jean-Pierre Roy. "I don't think that's what people would expect from a government organization."

Roy said sports gambling has been a fixture since the early 1990s. In recent weeks, the corporation has been testing the waters on betting on the Oscars, and Roy says it will only know after the Feb. 24 ceremony whether it was a hit. The Atlantic Lottery Corp. was the first to announce it would offer Oscar betting this year.

"But betting on a religious event — we're not sure that would be the best way to go," Roy said.

Since Pope Benedict XVI's surprise announcement on Monday that he will step down on Feb. 28, Quebecers have weighed in on whether Ouellet could be next in line.

Ouellet, the 68-year-old native of La Motte, Que., was named a cardinal in 2003. In 2010 he was made head of the powerful Congregation for Bishops, which vets bishops nominations worldwide.

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Belgium criticized over conflict diamonds

Easing restrictions. Country claims concern is for Zimbabweans, monitoring group sees profit motive

A world monitoring group on conflict diamonds said Wednesday it wants restrictions on the sale of Zimbabwe diamonds tightened after calls to relax them by diamond companies in Belgium.

Belgium has argued the controls hurt revenue filtering down to ordinary Zimbabweans. But Global Witness insisted in a statement circulated Wednesday the European nation's interests were "closer to home" in its diamond centre of Antwerp that promotes diamond gifts around Valentine's Day.

The eastern Zimbabwe fields of Marange, where diamonds are mined, have long been mired in allegations of killings, human-rights violations and corruption.

The group warned against what it called "a love triangle" between Belgium, its diamond dealers and Zimbabwe.

"European Union members seeking to promote democracy and stability in Zimbabwe should avoid a menage-a-trois with Belgium and its diamond dealers this Valentine's Day," it said.

Context

Global Witness said any easing of curbs on Zimbabwe's diamond industry would likely mean more cash for Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe's loyalist police and military just months before elections. Mugabe's party has a history of violence and intimidation surrounding elections.

It said Belgium is pressing for a European Union embargo on Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation — at the forefront of diamond sales — to be lifted immediately.

Global Witness called for the corporation to remain strictly bound by European restrictions and said Anjin, a Chinese joint-venture diamond-mining company with links to senior Zimbabwean military officials, should be added to the European sanctions list, along with Sam Pa, a powerful Chinese mining magnate accused of involvement in illicit diamond trading.

EU foreign ministers are scheduled to meet Monday to review the bloc's economic restrictions on Zimbabwe after years of human-rights violations and political and economic turmoil. But union officials say any relaxation of the measures will depend on the holding of a credible referendum on a new constitution slated for March or April and parliamentary and presidential elections later in the year.

"The European Union should hold a steady course and restrict trade with diamond-mining operations in Marange until free and fair elections have taken place," Global Witness said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An unidentified diamond trader examines a newly polished stone at the Diamond Market in Antwerp, Belgium. GETTY IMAGES FILE

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Capping a reign

Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone takes off his skull cap after delivering a speech to Pope Benedict XVI at the end of the Ash Wednesday mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IOR

New Vatican bank head to be named

The Vatican says a new president of its embattled bank is expected to be announced within days.

The Institute for Religious Works, or IOR, has been without a leader since May, when its board ousted Italian banker Ettore Gotti Tedeschi for incompetence. It was a stunning move that came just as the Vatican was submitting its finances to a review in a bid to join the list of financially transparent countries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agriculture

Government funds beet study

The federal government is spending $600,000 to help the sugar-beet industry find new uses for the sweet tuber.

The money goes to the Alberta Sugar Beet Growers to study if beets can be used as a renewable alternative to petrochemicals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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For more information, including skate times, visit **rbc.com/familyday**

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101688 (12/2012)

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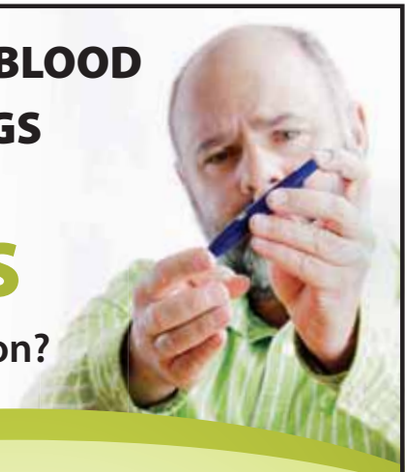

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New Maritime cell company

Eastlink. Halifax co. first to offer 4G LTE network

A Halifax communications company is now competing with some of Canada's wireless giants.

Eastlink, owned by Bragg Communications Inc., is now offering cellphones to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island on a no-term-contract basis.

Eastlink Wireless president Matthew MacLellan said the new service would include Canada's first and only 4G LTE network.

"You've got competitors of ours based out of Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver," MacLellan told the crowd at the Eastlink store in downtown Halifax on Wednesday. "We think we can do it from Halifax and we think we can do it just as well and better.

"We really tried to listen to everything that customers said that they liked about cellphones and cellphone companies and the things they didn't like," said MacLellan.

ALY THOMSON/METRO HALIFAX

Eastlink's president Matthew MacLellan JEFF HARPER/METRO HALIFAX

Federal watchdog

Retailers misled on card payments

A federal consumer watchdog says some credit and debit card payment companies are breaking rules they created to protect retailers, which in turn could be costing Canadians more money.

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada issued a warning to the industry on Wednesday that it will not tolerate payment companies who mislead merchants into paying hidden fees or lock them into confusing contracts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.82¢ (+0.09¢)

TSX 12,775.28 (-13.74)

OIL $97.01 US (-$0.50)

GOLD $1,645.10 (-$4.50)

Natural gas: $3.31 (+8¢)
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A WRITTEN HISTORY OF ST. VALENTINE

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

One little known fact about me (along with every other fact) is that I am a Valentine's Day history buff. This is why so many women I've spent Valentine's Day with have told me, "You're history." Their words, not mine.

It's a fascinating topic.

By looking back at the origins of Valentine's Day we can see how it overcame its humble beginnings as a 14th-century Coca-Cola promotion to become the genuine and understated holiday we know and love today, giving birth to some of the great poetry and art of our time.

The history of Valentine's Day: From mass decapitation to mass duplication:

Ralph Wiggum syndrome

With its perfect pre-Hollywood combo of romance and violence, Valentine's Day became increasingly popular. The biggest breakthrough came in 1584 when journeyman poet William Shakespeare wrote "Bee my Valentine" next to a picture of a bee.

Our story begins in **the 300s**, when mid-February was called **Lupercalia**, which was a celebration of **Juno**, the goddess of Canadian music awards. The festivities were boisterous but primitive, with people forced to express their love through **cards** they had to construct from scratch and **poetry** they had to write for themselves. It's hard to imagine the hardship.

This was before the invention of either **scissors or Shakespeare**, which meant the results were often little more than pieces of wood with **dirty drawings** on them, leading to many extinguished loves and several brutal wars. All was fair in both cases, and nobody ever had to say they were sorry.

The dismal state of **affairs** (most of the cards ended with the clunky "Be My Lupercalia") eventually changed with the birth of three different men named **Valentine**, a glorified soul considered so important to God that He built in **double-redundancy**. The three saints Valentine were very different people, but they all shared one romantic trait: They were all **brutally executed**.

This, of course, dovetails nicely with our perception of **modern love**. Since their beheadings, the most **perfect loves** in fiction have always ended in **death** (Romeo and Juliet, Rose and Jack, Teen Angel and Narrator) leaving many husbands and wives to wish **their romances** could end so perfectly.

A number of legends have grown around the executions of St. Valentine(s), **not all of them true**, but it's clear their deaths gave rise to several famous **romance-related phrases**.

For instance, it's well documented that the **Grand Executioner** began each decapitation with the solemn proclamation: "It's not you, it's me."

Also, each saint's head tended to fall on his **twitching feet**, leading to the well-known phrase, "head over heels." ("To wear your heart on your sleeve" also came about then, but it's best not to get into details.)

With its perfect pre-Hollywood combo of **romance and violence**, Valentine's Day became increasingly popular. The biggest breakthrough came in 1584 when journeyman poet **William Shakespeare** wrote "Bee my Valentine" next to a picture of a bee. This brilliant bit of wordplay took off on Reddit, leading to fame and fortune for Shakespeare, despite claims of copyright infringement by user **Francis_Bacon**.

Combined with the invention of the **Gutenberg Laserjet Printer**, spreading love around the world was soon as simple as plunking down $8.95. By 2012, for the first time ever the **illness that is love** could spread worldwide just as quickly as **love-related illnesses**.

The **poets of the past** would be uncharacteristically speechless if they could see how easy sharing the perfect words has become. Though I think if Shakespeare were here today, he'd probably say, "What a time to **bee** alive. Or if not alive, to buzz off."

I'd **love** to see him top that.

... and they call it guppy love

CLELIA GASPARINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Advice from a guppy

Choose an ugly wingman to make yourself shine

When it comes to mating, guppies treasure their ugly friends — because they look so good by comparison.

An article published Wednesday by Britain's Royal Society says that male guppies prefer to associate with their drab-coloured counterparts when females are around.

"Males actively choose the social context that maximizes their relative attractiveness," the article said. Or, as lead author Clelia Gasparini put it: "If you are surrounded by ugly friends, you look better."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The dating game

- **Mating rituals.** An aquarium was set up with one female in partition on either end. Guppy bachelorette No. 1 had two attractive, brightly coloured males placed on either side of her. Guppy bachelorette No. 2 was stuck with uglier, drab-coloured fish.
- **The ugly guppy.** When a male guppy was put in the middle of the tank, and given the choice of which female to approach, bachelorette No. 2 was the more popular pick, with male guppies spending about 62 per cent of their time hanging around her side of the aquarium.

Plenty of fish

Ugly guppy plays matchmaker

The researchers also found that the time guppies spent with the guppy that was surrounded by ugly fish correlated with their unattractiveness. The uglier the guppy, the less likely it was that he would hang around the brightly coloured fish placed next to bachelorette No. 1.

Because it could be argued that guppies avoided their brightly coloured pals because attractive fish were more aggressive, or because predators were more likely to spot them, the experiment was repeated. Researchers ran it without any females, and again with the lights in the male enclosures turned down so that the test guppies couldn't see them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Only human

"As a researcher I cannot compare human mating systems with the guppies' one. But if you ask me as a person, sure ... I saw this tactic working pretty well with humans ... If you want to impress someone, do you think you will look more attractive in comparison with Mr. Bean or George Clooney?"

Clelia Gasparini, lead author of article published by Britain's Royal Society

Metropolitan Panel

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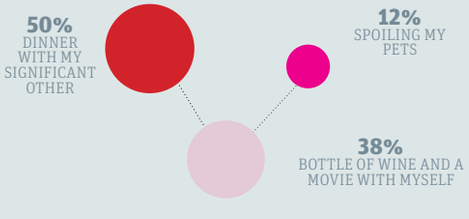
How will you be spending Valentine's Day?



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@ChrisStrikes: #Toronto's new area code 437... coming very soon to a phone near you.

@mikelipsius: You know, one day they're going to run out of area codes. #Toronto

@shebdon_: A new area code in #Toronto? There is now officially no hope of ever learning people's numbers. #437

@a_wordsmith: Damn you #Toronto. Stop flip flopping between warm and cold. Geez #freezing

@delainiemarin: Getting home and the sun is still out! #springisnear #toronto

@jackiescheffer: Finally saw Toronto Batman AND Spiderman up close... #LoveMyCity

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Illustration: Thomas Pitilli

YOU COULD WIN A CONCERT DATE WITH BIEBER!

THIS VALENTINE'S DAY – METRO "BELIEBES" IN LOVE!

Metro is inviting one lucky winner to a VIP experience at a Justin Bieber concert. You could win airfare, hotel and concert tickets for two with backstage passes to meet Bieber himself on one of his European Tour stops. All you have to do is:

1. Take a photo of yourself with this ad in a place you'd take Justin on a date
2. Upload your photos by visiting www.clubmetro.com/Justin
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No purchase necessary. Contest open to residents of Canada and certain other countries worldwide who are thirteen (13) years of age or older. Odds of winning depend on the number and caliber of eligible entries received. One (1) Grand Prize is available to be won, consisting of a trip to see Justin Bieber perform and meet Justin Beiber (approximate retail value of $5,000 CAD). Skill testing question required. Contest closes February 28, 2013 at 12:00AM CET. To enter and for complete contest rules visit www.facebook.com/metroint. Contest sponsors are Metro International S.A. together with its local Metro subsidiaries around the globe. The contest is in no way sponsored by Free Daily News Group Inc. or Pizza Pizza Limited. Neither Free Daily News Group Inc. nor Pizza Pizza Limited is responsible for this contest or its prize(s).

One lucky reader will meet Justin Bieber backstage at a future show through Metro's Valentine's Day contest. CONTRIBUTED

Beliebe in love!

Justin Bieber. Enter our Valentine's Day contest for a chance to meet the superstar

MICHAEL FREIDSON
Metro World News

Metro's Justin Bieber contest gives you the once in a lifetime opportunity to meet him backstage at a future show. Alas, we were not so lucky, but the superstar did answer some questions about his new album, Believe Acoustic, via email, shortly before heading out on his European tour.

On Believe Acoustic, you sound more raw and more available than on previous big-production tracks. How do you make that intimacy sound authentic, even though you're ...

Justin Bieber?
It sounds authentic because it is. Acoustic performances, whether busking in my hometown or on YouTube, are how I got started. Songs and performances like that really give me the chance to connect with my fans. That connection is why I perform an acoustic set as part of my Believe Tour every night.

Does this bring us closer to the "real" Justin?
I think everything I put out is a representation of the real me. But this album (Believe Acoustic) definitely allows the public to see a different side of me than Believe. The sound of this album is a lot rawer and more exposed.

I ask because previous stars your age — Timberlake, Britney — usually start to define their sound for an older audience around this time. Where are you going?

Quoted

"I'm just growing up and my sound is maturing with me. I just write about what is going on in my life."
Justin Bieber, on his new album Believe Acoustic

I'm just growing up and my sound is maturing with me. I don't spend a lot of time planning where my music will go next. I just write about what is going on in my life and how I am feeling and it's causing the music to grow with me in a very organic way.

Lots of guys in dorm rooms everywhere play acoustic guitars to pick up girls and fail, because they look cheesy. What tips do you have for them?
Be confident.

What are you doing this Valentine's Day?
I've got a small break before my U.K. tour dates start so I'm still figuring it out.

What's the wildest offer you've had from a fan?
I get a lot of marriage proposals.

We have to ask about Nothing Like Us, a song about your break up with Selena Gomez — you told Billboard you're not in the happiest place and have friends to get you through. What have you learned about relationships?
I have learned a lot about who I am and who I want to be.

And?
I've also learned how to be there for someone else.

Bieber's V-Day Playlist

Justin creates his ultimate romantic mixed tape — fire up the iTunes and turn down the lights!

- **I'll Make Love To You.** Boyz II Men
- **As Long As You Love Me.** Justin Bieber
- **You Are Not Alone.** Michael Jackson
- **7 Days.** Craig David
- **Back at One.** Brian McKnight
- **Climax.** Usher
- **Because of You.** Ne-Yo
- **Let's Get it On.** Marvin Gaye
- **Best I Ever Had.** Drake
- **Broken Road.** Rascall Flatts

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Oscar host: the world's hardest job

Seth MacFarlane. Family Guy creator takes the reins from Billy Crystal this year — and is banking on not being invited back

Seth MacFarlane GETTY IMAGES

Despite getting advice from Billy Crystal and working as hard as he can to prepare for hosting duties at the Academy Awards, Seth MacFarlane thinks his hosting gig is a "one-off" and that he'll be "flayed by the press" no matter what he does.

Speaking to reporters Tuesday from the Dolby Theatre, where he'll host the 85th annual Oscar ceremony on Feb. 24, the entertainer was alternately confident and self-deprecating.

"I'm not feeling a lot of pressure from myself," he said. "There is sort of a comfort in knowing that no matter what you do, you're going to get the same reactions in the reviews. So I could put on the worst or the best show in the world and I will still be flayed by the press."

Still, he said he's spent five months trying to strike a comedic balance that will satisfy the fans of his animated shows and the comparatively highbrow audience inside the Dolby Theatre.

"I've set myself up for the hardest job in the world because the fans of Family Guy and Ted and the shows and whatnot that I do are expecting one thing. If I deliver that, this crowd will walk out," he said.

He promises to add bite to the show — "The whole point of their bringing me on was to give it a little bit more of an edge" — but acknowledges there will be a lot of ego in the audience.

"You have a room full of people who are at the top of their game — they're successful, they're being honoured, they're attractive — and yet this is also the group with the thinnest skin on the planet," he said, "so it's a tough group."

The 39-year-old entertainer said Crystal gave him some helpful advice, including "get comfortable with your shoes before you go on stage."

MacFarlane will sing during the show and is also a nominee for his original song for Ted, but said he expects to lose the category to Adele.

He's aiming for "very much a classic Oscars with a much more current edge," and said, "It's impossible to work any harder than I have in preparation for this," but he still doesn't think he'll be invited back. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Romance

Safe Haven

Director. Lasse Hallstrom

Stars. Josh Duhamel, Julianne Hough

Josh Duhamel and Julianne Hough are blandly likeable enough but this seventh big-screen adaptation of a Nicholas-Sparks-authored heart flutterer won't find a safe haven from discerning audiences. Simply put, this tale is about a woman seeking sanctuary in a sleepy town who falls for a widower while her psychotic hubby hunts her down. Veteran filmmaker Lasse Hallstrom (Dear John) does his best to mould the melodrama but Safe Haven is still mostly stale and unmistakably safe storytelling.

STEVE GOW

Romance/Drama

Beautiful Creatures

Director. Richard LaGravenese

Stars. Alice Englert, Alden Ehrenreich

Based on a series of young adult novels, Beautiful Creatures is likely aimed at the same cinematic spend-thrift crowd that turned the Twilight franchise into box-office alchemy. Adapting the love story between a longing, teenaged bookworm and his supernatural girlfriend with a curse, Oscar-nominated-filmmaker Richard LaGravenese (The Fisher King) clutters an ultimately simplistic story with complications that are neither all that compulsory nor compelling. It ends up anything but super or natural. **STEVE GOW**

Action

A Good Day To Die Hard

Director. John Moore

Stars. Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney, Sebastian Koch

The original Die Hard is an '80s classic. A near perfect mix of action, humour and Bruce Willis' charisma, it was a claustrophobic thriller set inside an office building. Since then the movies have slowly opened up the action, becoming more generic with every added location. The new film sees Willis in Russia joining forces with his CIA operative son (Jai Courtney). It has exotic locations and a body count that would take a mathematician to calculate, but none of the wit or style of the first film.

RICHARD CROUSE

JOHN MCCLANE'S BODY COUNT

We chart the number of bad guys Bruce Willis has dispatched over the four Die Hard films — and see what the data might tell us about how he'll do in the fifth instalment, A Good Day to Die Hard.

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SOUTHERN COCKTAILS
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What comes first, the book or the film?

Adaptations. The original piece of work rules when looking for the premiere way of enjoying a story

If Yann Martel had his way, people would be reading Life of Pi before they saw the film. HANDOUT

As Ang Lee's striking film Life of Pi rides a wave of awards season glory, with 11 Oscar nominations and many other honours, the boy-tiger shipwreck story it's based on is also enjoying a boost.

Saskatoon-based author Yann Martel's Man Booker Prize-winning 2001 novel Life of Pi has been in the Top 20 on the New York Times Best Sellers list (and in the Top 10 several times) every week since the film came out in November.

The question is, are readers taking in the book before seeing the film, or vice versa?

If Martel had his way, it would be the former.

When it comes to book/film adaptations, "One should start with the original work," Martel wrote in a recent email to The Canadian Press, via his publicist.

"So read the novel if it came first (so read Life of Pi the book before seeing the movie) or see the movie first if it was done first (so 2001: A Space Odyssey, which was a movie and then became a book).

"That way you get the originating artist's work in its first format rather than an adaptation."

CBC Radio Writers & Company host Eleanor Wachtel agrees, noting "movies colonize your imagination."

"If you see the movie first and then read the novel, it's virtually impossible to block out the actors who play the characters that you're now reading about," says Wachtel, who also hosts TIFF Bell Lightbox's Books on Film subscription series.

"So if you want to have that primary, intimate experience with a novel, it's much, much better I think to read a book first and then see the film."

In some cases, moviegoers might even have a better understanding or appreciation of a film if they've read the book first, she adds.

"Something like Cloud Atlas, which is quite a stupendous adaptation, I think it's much better to read the novel first," says Wachtel.

"The movie jump-cuts a lot ... but the novel is like six nesting bowls cut in half, each written in a different style, and if you don't read the novel first you won't really be able to appreciate that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Look in a book...

With literary awards, social media platforms, book blogs and websites like Goodreads.com creating much buzz around books these days, it's hard to put off reading a story before its film release, notes Viveca Gretton of the Toronto Public Library. "People want to be part of that reading community," says the librarian. "One of the good things about reading the book is that it's going to take you to other books as well. It might start you on a path of reading similar books or books that interest you."

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SAZERAC
The Official Cocktail of New Orleans
1 sugar cube
5 dashes Peychaud's bitters
2 oz bourbon or whisky
¼ oz Lucid Absinthe Supérieure
Lemon twist for garnish
Add ice to a rocks glass and let chill. In another rocks glass add 1 sugar cube and soak with Peychaud's bitters. Muddle sugar cube until granules dissolve with bitters, add bourbon, add ice and stir. Discard the ice in the other rocks glass and add Absinthe. Swirl Absinthe around the inside of the glass then discard. Strain in the bourbon-bitters mixture and serve neat. Garnish with a lemon twist.

These movies put the zzz's in Oscar buzz

Yawn. While some have said this year's awards race is thrilling, others just want to nap

Nancy Zwiers was genuinely psyched to see Lincoln, but something happened between the ticket purchase and the credits. Off screen, that is.

"Yes, I fell asleep," confessed the 54-year-old marketing executive in Long Beach, Calif. "I only have two clear memories of the movie: a bunch of old white guys sitting around talking and Sally Field in a perpetual state of angst."

That was shortly after its release in October. Fast forward to January and a dozen Academy Award nominations for the 150-minute epic and another accolade has emerged: nap worthy, with and without apologies from the snoozy to Steven Spielberg and Daniel Day-Lewis.

Movie napping is almost certainly as old as cinema itself. Some blame it on soporific popcorn. Others on the darkness.

Any which way, cinematic snoozing seems near epidemic proportions this awards season with Lincoln, the 157-minute sung Les Miserables, the 169-minute The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey and others cited as good for a snore.

The Internet is heavy with lists of all-time snoozer movies but rarely is one season so full of them, or so say the nappers.

Tadd Rosenfeld, who heads an employment service, gets plenty of sleep and rarely naps outside of movie theatres.

"I do see a lot of movies on airplanes travelling back and forth to Asia, so I have a lower tolerance for ridiculousness in pictures perhaps than others do," said Rosenfeld, 38.

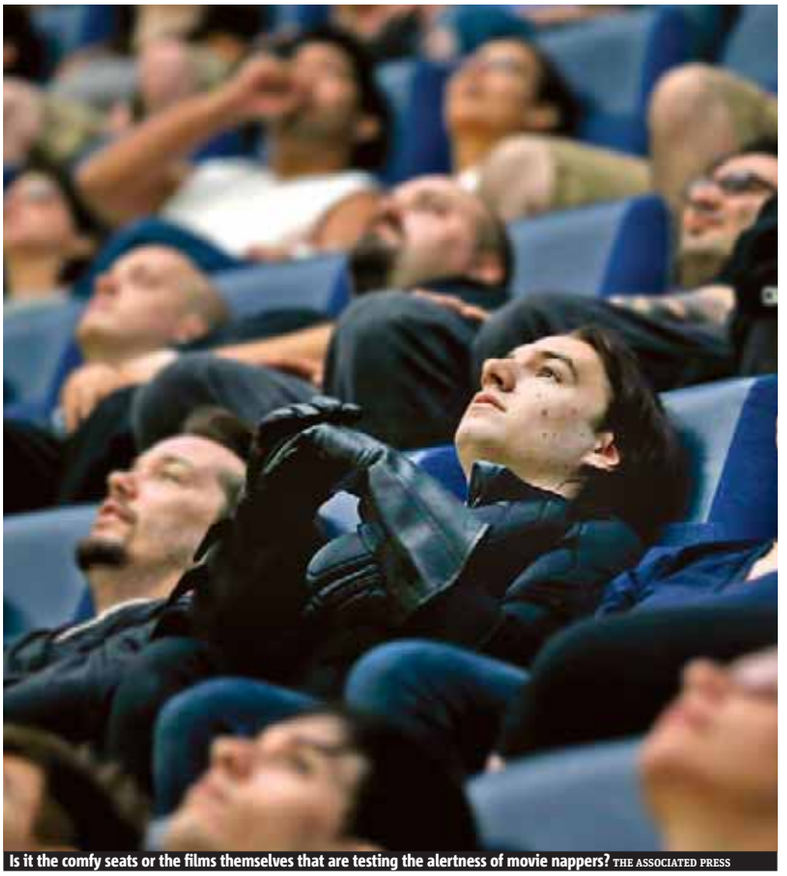
He's in catch-up mode on Oscar nominees and said his last in-theatre snooze was The Dark Knight Rises, the latest in the Batman franchise released in July. It won a dozen awards, including one of the American Film Institute's movies of the year and a Hollywood Film Award. Most of his friends loved it.

"But to me it was simply restful. It lost my attention almost straight away, and as my eyelids felt heavier and heavier, I just relaxed into a lower sitting position in the chair, allowing the colourful scenes to unfold as I drifted pleasantly away," Rosenfeld said.

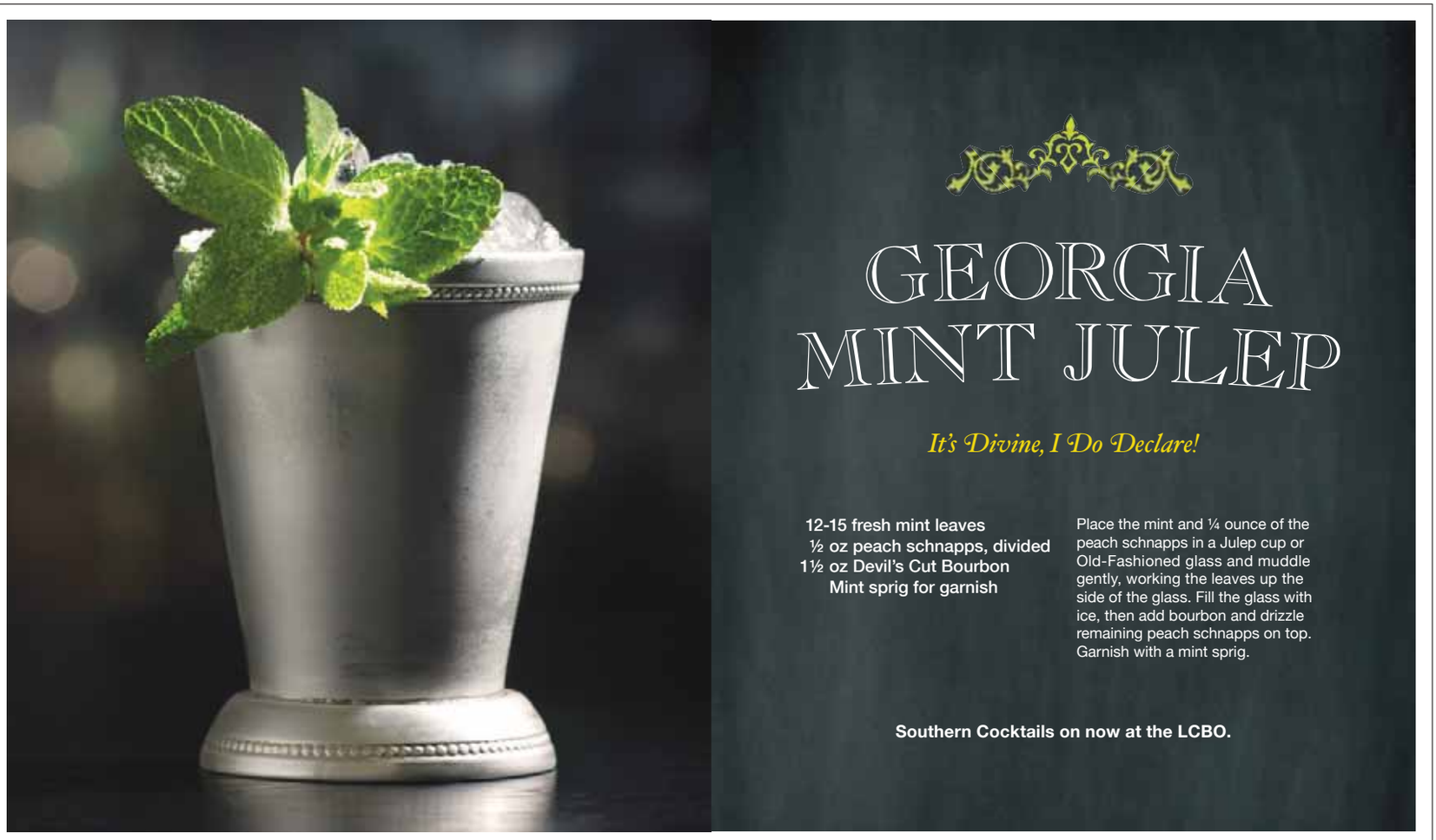
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The long ... and long of it

Entertainment Weekly has dubbed this the most thrilling race for Oscar in years, but the length of some contenders has earned attention. Over at Saturday Night Live, a recent skit suggests the next two Hobbit movies morph into 18 instead, including The Elf Queen Tries to Pick an Outfit. The writers at SNL included this mock review from film critic Peter Travers: "I fell asleep for 45 minutes and when I woke up the dwarves were assembling an Ikea dresser."



Is it the comfy seats or the films themselves that are testing the alertness of movie nappers? THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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12-15 fresh mint leaves
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Southern Cocktails on now at the LCBO.

Welcome to Nollywood, T.O.

Movies. Unique filming and storytelling style showcased at Toronto Black Film Festival

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

Turning Point is one of the films featured at this year's Toronto Black Film Festival, running until Sunday. SCREENSHOT

We all know Hollywood, and most people have a passing knowledge of Bollywood. But what about Nollywood?

The nickname for Nigeria's burgeoning film industry — it's the third largest in the world — Nollywood gets an overdue showcase at the Toronto Black Film Festival this weekend.

"It's more than the size," says Jude Idada, one the fest's co-ordinators and programmer of its Nollywood triple bill. "It's a momentum and a consciousness. It's cinematic storytelling by people who have been socio-economically maligned."

Nigeria's cinema thrived in the 1970s, but the well dried up when the Western African country's economy tanked in the '80s. "If you can't eat you wouldn't think about watching a film," says Idada. Movie theatres quickly went bankrupt.

But the 1992 film Living in Bondage changed everything, becoming a national hit.

"It was very badly shot, but the people really embraced it."

The movie set the template for hundreds of films to come.

Made on shoestring budgets, Nollywood directors can wrap a feature length flick in a manner of days, says Idada. The actors, who often receive the script the day before shooting, regularly film several movies at the same time.

"They don't obey western forms of filmmaking and storytelling," he says. "Very personal, very dramatic, very raw and very engaging: this was the Nigerian way of telling stories."

There are currently about a dozen theatres in Nigeria where it's not uncommon for Nollywood films to outperform their Hollywood counterparts. But, says Idada, only a couple dozen of the more than 500 films produced annually end up in the cinema; the rest are burned straight to DVDs, which are sold in markets and shops.

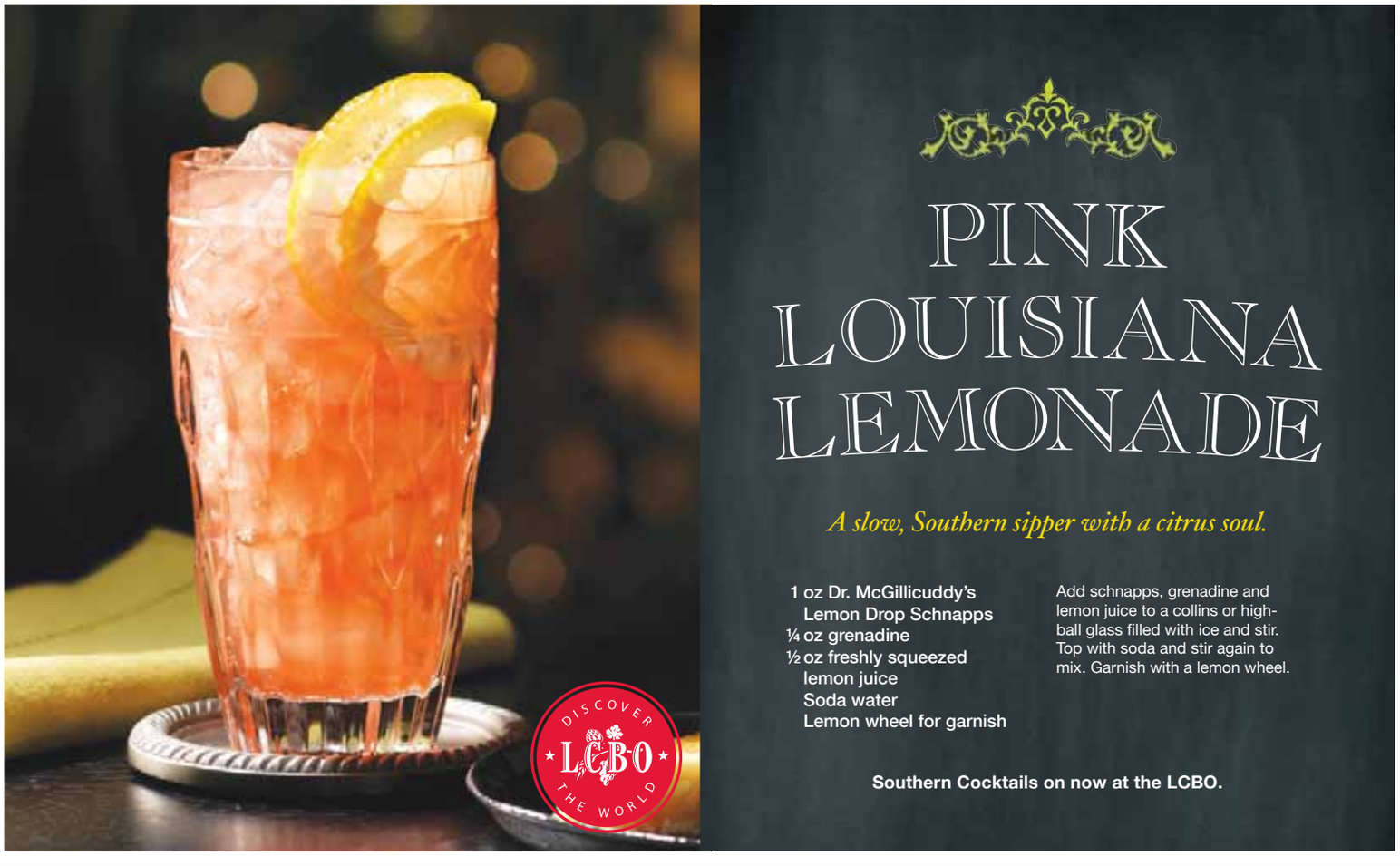
And Nollywood's success isn't going unnoticed; recognizing the half-a-billion dollars the industry generates annually, the Nigerian government recently created a $200 million film fund.

"It's become that platform of celebration, of the culture, of the belief system," says Idada, "and of the issues that affect a particular group of people."

Toronto Black Film Festival runs until Sunday. torontoblackfilm.com.

Ghana follows suit

Nollywood's success has spawned similar industries in neighbouring Ghana. "They decided to tell their own stories using the Nollywood formula," says Jude Idada. Producers often cast actors from other African countries in order to crack new markets. Meanwhile, a growing number of filmmakers are attending film schools abroad, bringing a new level of technical ability and refinement to the pictures. This new Nollywood was given an added boost when the New York Film Academy set up a satellite campus in the country.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Bocelli sets the mood for Passione

Love songs from the Mediterranean.
Legendary opera singer talks to Metro about reconnecting with songs from his youth

PAT HEALY
scene@metronews.ca

With his latest album, Passione, Andrea Bocelli has put together a collection of love songs from the Mediterranean, most of which he sang in piano bars during his formative (read: not yet famous) years in Italy.

The songs on this album seem easier to sing.
It's easy for me, but the difficulty is in the expression that you have to put in these kinds of songs, because the original interpreters of these songs are the best singers of the world. So I have to be very careful to put all my heart into the interpretations.

Tell me about when you used to play these songs in piano bars.
I began to sing pop music when I was 18 years old, more or less. ... Before, I sang and listened to only opera, because my passion is for that. But when I began to play in the piano bars, I discovered wonderful pages of music — of pop music. In a few months, I learned many songs, and I began to learn the most important and famous songs of the world like Strangers in the Night ... all the songs that I put now in these albums, because every song on this album is a beautiful memory of my youth.

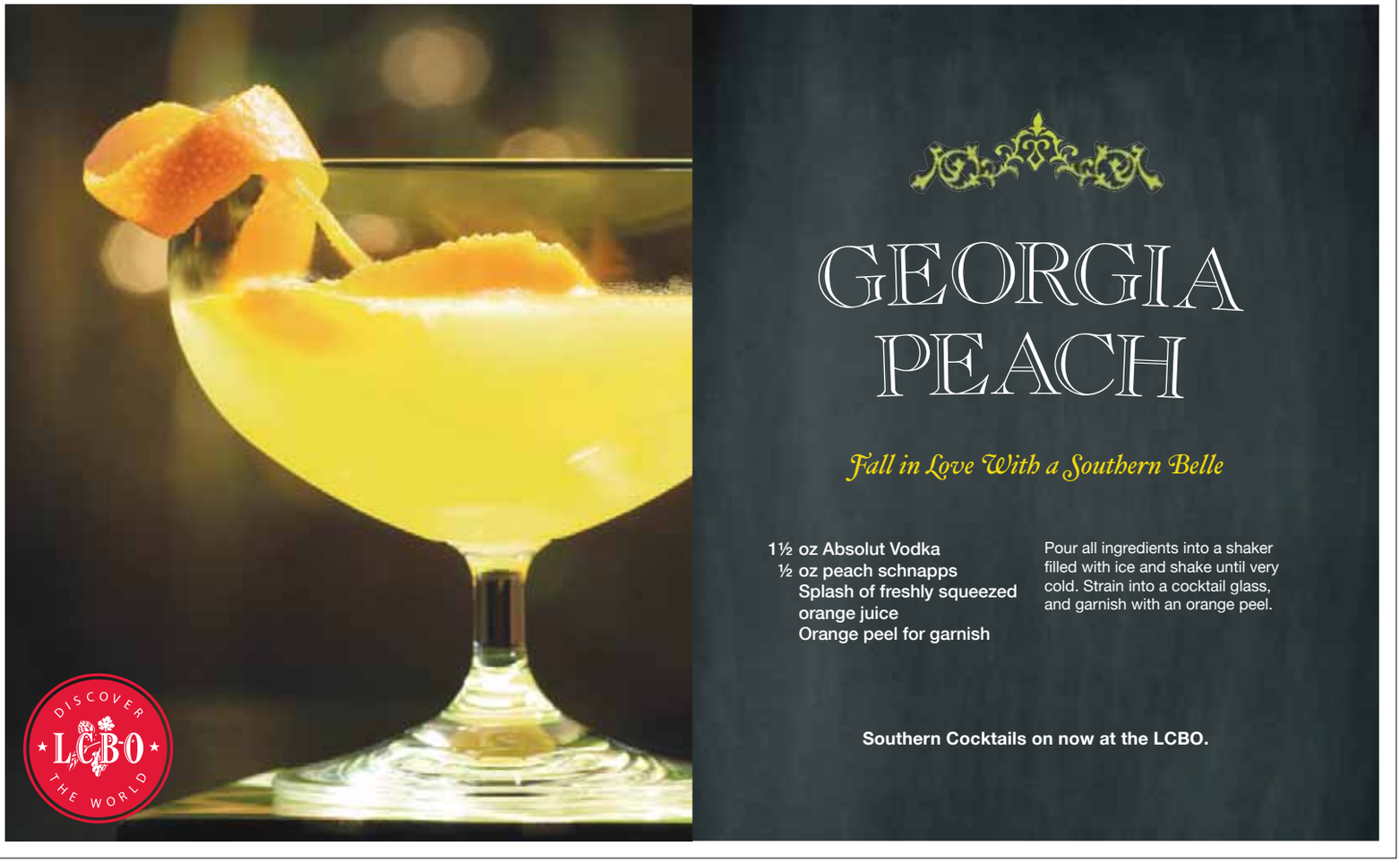
Tell me about this album's duets with Nelly Furtado and Jennifer Lopez.
Those were mostly ideas that David Foster suggested. And for me, they were both beautiful surprises. ... They really are very expressive when they sing.

There seems to be a real Latin flair on this album.
The Latin world is (full) of great masterpieces. And after the great success that my previous album, Amore, had in the Latin world that was basically a collection of Latin songs, we thought it would be right to try to connect with that vibe.

You do a duet of sorts with Edith Piaf. She died when you were about eight years old. Tell me about your connection with her.
When I was a boy, I didn't know anything about Edith Piaf. ... But I did hear her voice, and ... it hit me deeply from the very first time that I heard it. ... And then of course, years later I actually learned more about her life ... and I realized that since she had some varied and very deep experiences in her life, this definitely must have helped her in becoming so expressive with her music.

Do you pull from experiences to be more expressive?
Absolutely, yes. ... Each one of us sings what we are. And therefore we express through our voice what cannot be expressed through words alone.

In his latest album, Andrea Bocelli sings with Nelly Furtado and Jennifer Lopez. GETTY IMAGES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Orange peel for garnish
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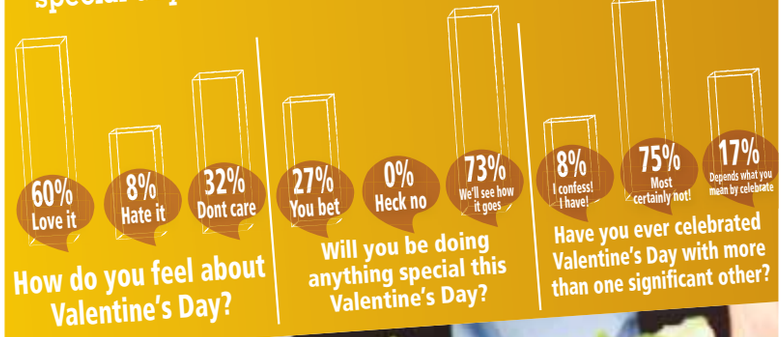
Sharing the love on Valentine's Day!

We asked our Metropolitan Panel what their plans are this Valentine's Day and who they'll be sharing their special day with.


60% Love it
8% Hate it
32% Dont care
How do you feel about Valentine's Day?
27% You bet
0% Heck no
73% We'll see how it goes
Will you be doing anything special this Valentine's Day?
8% I confess! I have!
75% Most certainly not!
17% Depends what you mean by celebrate
Have you ever celebrated Valentine's Day with more than one significant other?

Whatever your plans are today we hope you'll be sharing it with someone special.

Care to share your opinion?
Join our Metropolitan Panel at
www.metropolitanpanel.ca

Metropolitan Panel
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News worth sharing.

After 30 years, Yo La Tengo is still going strong with the release of their 13th album. CARLIE ARMSTRONG/CONTRIBUTED

Three to Tengo

Indie. Metro talks to the trio about their latest album and their 'last-minute' lyrics

NOLAND GAWRON
scene@metronews.ca

As Yo La Tengo close in on 30 years as a band, the trio has secured their name as one of the most beloved and long-standing survivors in indie-rock.

While most of their contemporaries have already broken up and launched reunion tours, Yo La Tengo continue on their sonic journey without interruption, and with a legacy and longevity revolving around consistency — not so much a consistency of sound, as much as providing a standard in making great, timeless records that will go down in the permanent lexicon and discography of indie-rock music.

Beginning in 1984, and based around the husband-and-wife harmonies of founding members Ira Kaplan and Georgia Hubley, the addition of James McNew in the early '90s put the band in a unique position where each of the members was now a potential singer and songwriter, making their music all the more diverse.

They have scored films, appeared on numerous compilations and even dared to take their already underground following to more obscure levels by creating a garage rock cover band known as Condo F—s for anyone following along.

With the recent release of Fade, their 13th official LP, the band seems to have created one of their most thematic and introspective records to date.

Beginning with the lines: "Sometimes the bad guys come out on top/ Sometimes the good guys lose/ We try not to lose our hearts/ Not to lose our minds," you get the sense that this is an album dealing with maturity and a search for answers.

And though the feeling seems to continue on throughout the record, the theme may not have been conscious at all.

"I probably would say it's not true," says singer and guitarist Kaplan. "But I could be lying. Although the songs are written over a year, the lyrics are not. The lyrics are written very quickly.

"We tend to sing along in a sort of nonsense kind of way and even record the songs without lyrics and at the last second come up with them. I think because of the speed and the concentrated space in which the lyrics are written, the songs end up talking to each other. But in no way is there a plan. It just sort of takes shape the way it does organically, not with a concept put behind it."

Progression of sound

Fade-ing in

With access to friends and jazz musicians who appear on Fade, Yo La Tengo's sound progression seems to continue to grow stylistically in dynamic while continuing to soften in decibel. But even that is questionable.

"Sometimes we're also not the best judge of those types of things," says Kaplan. "We think we create a balance and maybe certain things jump out more than others. What we are doing on (our latest tour), though, is extremely different. We will essentially be our own opening act. So we do a first set of quieter songs and then the second set is louder."

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ENTERTAINMENT ONE

Rapper's return to the stage gets off to a rough start

Aesop Rock. Hurricanes and broken bones delay start of indie-rapper's tour to promote first album in five years

LINDA LABAN
scene@metronews.ca

Aesop Rock CHRISSY PIPER/CONTRIBUTED

First, it was Hurricane Sandy, then a broken rib. Art-house rapper and producer Aesop Rock's return to touring after a considerable hiatus got off to a bumpy start with seven shows cancelled (albeit now rescheduled).

"Cancelling is a terrible feeling," says the rapper, whose real name is Ian Bavitz. "At that time everything on the news was speaking of a biblical event. It was a bad place, bad time, and we weren't left with much of a choice. Then this rib thing is just annoying. It's a medical emergency so there's not much I can do, but that doesn't make it feel any better."

The tour is for the broody indie-rapper/producer's first album in five years, Skelethon, which features ex-Moldy Peaches' Kimya Dawson among its contributors. While the Aesop Rock moniker rested, Bavitz was busy with several projects under different names.

"There's never much of a time when my actual workload slows. I like doing music and attempting to be creative in general, so if something comes up and seems interesting I go for it," he said.

On dealing with stress

"Anyone that works with me closely can tell you that I'm about as neurotic as they come. I have made big efforts to reel it in over the years. I like to think it's because I'm passionate about what I do. The absolute best thing I can do to combat stress is to focus primarily on the art and music side and not pay attention to the scene or game. Just make songs and otherwise shut up."

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

LET'S GET IT ON

KEEP THE SPICE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP

EYECANDY IMAGES/THINKSTOCK

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JUPITERIMAGES/CREATAS/THINKSTOCK

Sex. The word grabs our attention, but in many relationships, especially when overtime and small children are in the mix, the act gets neglected.

When couples have busy lives, "the first thing to go is the libido," says relationship expert Margaret Hicks, a couples and sex therapist at Hicks Counselling, based in Toronto.

Loss of sex drive is especially common among women that work and have young kids, she says. "It's the No. 1 thing that goes and nobody tells anybody."

So let's be frank. If your sex life is lacklustre, talk about it and work with your partner to make it better.

MAKE TIME

"Make romantic time/sexual time a priority," Hicks says. Scheduling intimacy may seem unromantic, but it goes miles toward helping couples get their groove back, she says.

Making time for sex is especially important when couples lead busy lives (we're looking at you, Metro readers), where work and other duties can take over. Pencil in one night a week, reserve your Sunday mornings — whatever works for you, Hicks says.

Couples should give themselves, "the space and energy to commit to being sexual," she advises.

FLIRT

Do little things for your partner throughout the week to warm up for your scheduled sexy time. A flirtatious text message here, a back rub there. It all helps build mutual appreciation that will enhance your time together, Hicks explains.

And don't forget the important dates. Valentine's Day, anniversaries and birthdays might seem unimportant to you, but if they are important to your partner, they are worth heeding.

APPROACH CONFLICT DIRECTLY AND WITH SENSITIVITY

Anyone who has ever had a fight with their partner knows that conflict can get in the way of a healthy sexual relationship.

"Watch how you talk with your partner. Try to be direct and clear," Hicks advises.

Little cutting remarks, sarcasm and negativity can breed anger and defensiveness between a couple. Instead of getting mad, try to understand your partner's point of view and show them you care, even if you respectfully disagree, Hicks says.

GET SEXY

This point is important for anyone whose libido plummets when they feel unattractive. "It's important to feel good about yourself," Hicks says. So crank that Marvin Gaye, light candles and wear makeup, perfume or clothes in which you feel good. Whatever makes you feel sexy in your own skin, Hicks explains.

"Sex is intentional. Make it a priority. Make it ongoing."

– Stephanie Orford

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Creature, pictured here, is part of Freakshow, an unscripted series premiering Thursday at 9:30 p.m. ET on AMC. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/AMC

Freaks, geeks and taxidermy

Freakshow. AMC departs from scripted fare like Mad Men with new series on Venice Beach 'freaks,' comic book geek-chat and competitive taxidermy

"Wonder is still alive," says Todd Ray. "People are still curious." Ray sure is. Wonder and curiosity led him to bail on a flourishing career as a music producer seven years ago to indulge his passion for the odd.

Today, with the enthusiastic participation of wife Danielle, teenage son Phoenix and daughter Asia — along with their extended family of wondrous exhibitionists — Ray is the impresario of a freak show on the boardwalk of Venice Beach, Calif.

And, now, they're all poised to become TV stars, thanks to Freakshow, an unscripted series premiering Thursday at 9:30 p.m. ET on AMC.

The Rays invite viewers to meet the gang, and — don't worry — it's OK to stare at Amazing Ali, the miniature woman; Goth-fashioned Morgue, whose bag of tricks includes plunging a drill bit up his nose; Marcus "The Creature," whose body is a tableau of tattoos and piercings; and George, who, at seven-feet-eight-inches, is, well, the resident Tall Man.

Even Asia Ray has gotten into the act, transforming herself from a dutiful student and aspiring classical musician into a radiantly charming fire-eater, sword swallower and contortionist. Music school can wait. The Freakshow calls.

Granted, much of the reality-show genre could be branded a freak show, with the likes of Honey Boo Boo, Snooki and the Real (pick your city) Housewives freaking out for the cameras.

But in Ray's lexicon, "freak" isn't a bad word at all. "We're all freaks of the universe," he says, meaning everyone on the planet Earth. "We're all individuals so unique that we're actually magical creatures."

No wonder he celebrates people who are even odder than most. During a recent interview he explains that, "when they join us, they're respected and they're treated well."

Ray says the series explores why they do what they do as performers, "and, if they're born uniquely different from most people, how they cope with the struggle against the 'normal' world — how they deal with society that puts them on the outside."

How should the "normal" world deal with them in return? "You can look at those who are different from you and be excited about them," Ray says, "and then you can look in the mirror and be excited about yourself." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New lineup

Some viewers may wonder what an unscripted series like Freakshow is doing on a network known for feature films and acclaimed dramas like Mad Men and The Walking Dead. But Freakshow isn't AMC's only departure from scripted fare.

- On Thursday at 9 p.m., Comic Book Men resumes its second season of informed geek-chat originating from filmmaker Kevin Smith's New Jersey comic shop, Jay and Silent Bob's Secret Stash.
- Then, at 10 p.m., following Freakshow, AMC will premiere Immortalized, a wondrously odd competition show. Let other competitions settle who can rustle up the best grub or shed the most pounds. Immortalized focuses on taxidermy.

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Jeremy Hotz

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Southland. King battles sleep deprivation — both on and off the screen

When Southland returns to TNT on Wednesday, viewers will see the character of Los Angeles police detective Lydia Adams as a new mom desperately in need of sleep.

"She's not juggling things so well. Motherhood is not coming naturally," said actress Regina King, who plays Adams.

"She didn't anticipate having a colicky baby, so she's not getting any sleep, and that affects everything, especially being a detective."

Regina King THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Off-camera, King can definitely relate. She's not a new mom, but she's been pulling double duty, directing and acting in an upcoming episode of the acclaimed series.

"It's tiring because as a director you have to be thinking about everything," she said.

King directed the fifth episode of the new season. Now that the episode is done filming, King is involved in the editing process. Plus, she's acting in subsequent episodes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bruce Willis ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Willis only hits the bottle a bit now

Bruce Willis admits he used to have a drinking problem, leading to a brief foray into complete sobriety, but he's past all that now. "I had been sober (for a while)," he tells GQ magazine, explaining that he eased off his personal prohibition "once I realized that I wasn't going to run myself off the pier of life with alcohol, drinking vodka out of the bottle every day." As for his current drinking habits? "I have wine now, mostly when I eat," he says. Of course, Willis is still facing the unstoppable march of time. "Nobody wants to hear this bad news, but we're all dying on some level," he says. "I'm going to try to keep this machine moving forward as much as possible and not have to think about the eventuality of becoming more frail and less able to do the work. I know that I'm not going into politics. That's not an option."

Swift response to exes, Underwood

Taylor Swift

Taylor Swift had more exes on her mind at the Grammys than just Harry Styles, whom she mocked during her performance of We are Never Ever Getting Back Together. The lovelorn singer also made a point of avoiding ex-boyfriend John Mayer and his current squeeze, Katy Perry, despite being seated near each other, according to Us Weekly. And as for reports that Grammy organizers were ordered to keep Swift away from rival Carrie Underwood? "Taylor feels Carrie is always rude to her, so she steers clear of her," a source tells the magazine, pointing out that "after Carrie performed, Taylor didn't stand. Everyone else did."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Hugh Jackman: Nope, not gay

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Just because he has a deep love of musical theatre, lives in the West Village and has an older wife does not make Hugh Jackman gay. In an in-depth interview with The Hollywood Reporter, the Australian star addresses the gay rumours that constantly swirl around him.

"Just recently, it bugs her," Jackman, 44, said about what his wife of 16 years, Deborra-Lee Furness, 57, reads online."She goes: 'It's big. It's everywhere!'"

His X-Men producer Lauren Shuler Donner even went on record with the magazine to talk about their marriage. "I have seen him with Deborra since the beginning of their trip to Hollywood, and I've been on five movie sets with him and have never seen him stray, have never seen him eye anyone," she said. "I met him when he did Oklahoma! (at London's Royal National Theatre in 1999). He was genuine, hugely talented. He was in love with his wife that day and still is."

Doth thou protest too much? Who gets their producer on record to talk about the state of their marriage?

See? I'm doing it too! Why can't we believe that a drop-dead handsome, successful matinee idol can be happily in love with someone not on his level, looks-wise? Also, aren't we at the place in society that he could come out if he wanted to? Or am I just dreaming big here?

Lady Gaga

Gaga's pain puts concerts on hold

Lady Gaga has postponed her next four concerts because a joint inflammation condition called synovitis has left her unable to walk, she revealed on Twitter. "I've been hiding a show injury and chronic pain for sometime now. Over the past month it has worsened," the singer tweeted. "I've been praying it would heal. I hid it from my staff, I didn't want to disappoint my amazing fans. However, after last night's performance I could not walk and still can't." Makeup dates for the cancelled shows — in Chicago, Detroit and Hamilton, Ont. — have yet to be announced.

Twitter

@EmmaBunton
I've been hacked!!!!

@carrieunderwood
Why do dogs' paws smell like Fritos? More importantly, why do I love to smell my dogs' paws? These are a couple of life's big questions...

@JimCarrey
America has become the biggest gun club in the world and every single day now we are seeing that Karma played out.

@OfficialAdele
Chris Brown and I were complimenting each other in that photo actually!

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Trinidadian-born American rapper Theophilus London now calls Brooklyn his home. HANDOUT

London calling: Theophilus and the finer things

The song and pants. Young artist helping to usher in an era where hip hop and High Street go hand in hand

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

"Kids used to want to be rappers, but now they want to be fashion designers, which is cool. It's an education," says Theophilus London.

The New-York-based rapper is talking about his legions of fans and network of starry friends, which he refers to as "kids."

But in terms of the music industry, London, at 25, is still a youth himself — though a savvy one.

In fact, he's probably had more magazine and newspaper profiles (GQ, Esquire, Elle, The New York Times) and fashion collaborations (Cole Haan, Stüssy and Surface to Air) than he's had musical airtime.

And he can name drop with the best of them. Solange Knowles is "like family, like a sister."

He casually mentions seeing mood boards out at Kanye West's house. Those are some impressive connections considering that London, who was actually born in Trinidad, has only released one album, an EP and a selection of mix tapes.

Usually the lucrative endorsement spoils are rewarded after years of toil, making records or movies. However, London has managed to capitalize off of his personal style and cool credibility first.

"Rappers used to be wearing Air Jordans. I still wear them. But now, the progressive kids are more educated and wanting Givenchy, Rick Owens or Alexander Wang. And Kanye's clothes — they're dope," he says.

While London is answering my interview questions from the set of a Chevrolet commercial, he swears he approaches it all with a strategy and awareness that extends beyond the next commercial paycheque.

"I'd never do anything with McDonald's, for example. They're not moral," he says. "I have my own agenda."

For now, that includes a new album coming out this summer and planned collaborations with Azealia Banks and Frank Ocean.

"I never do things just for the money. I have to believe in it."

Hipster hop

"Rappers used to be wearing Air Jordans. I still wear them. But now, the progressive kids are more educated and wanting Givenchy, Rick Owens or Alexander Wang."

Theophilus London

Independently inspired

A studied approach to style

"The black suit and hat that I'm wearing on the cover of my first album, Timez Are Weird These Days, was inspired by Leon Ware (the writer behind Marvin Gaye's I Want You record). I got a lot of work off of the back of that. I know how to dress. I have a look and I don't need a stylist to tell me what to wear," London said.

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Younger Jenneration eyes sister success

Ready to rock the runways. Kendall and Kylie come out of the shadow of their reality-star siblings with first fashion line

Kendall and Kylie Jenner are taking a cue from big sisters Kourtney, Kim and Khloe Kardashian — launching their own clothing line.

Kendall, 17, and Kylie, 15, teamed up with PacSun to put out clothes aimed at teen girls.

"We watched our sisters do their clothing line (Kardashian Kollection for Sears) — when the opportunity came to us, we jumped on it. We've always been interested in fashion and all that so it was great and worked out perfectly," Kylie said in a recent interview.

The line has a California feel because the girls are from there.

Both girls model. Last week they walked in the annual Heart Truth Red Dress Fashion Show in New York with their mother, Kris. They insist they're not competitive with one another.

Style in sight

"We've always been interested in fashion and all that so it was great and worked out perfectly."

Kylie Jenner on the PacSun collaboration

"No, not at all. I think we're both in two kind of separate areas," said Kendall, who is more serious about a modelling career.

Kylie, on the other hand, would like to put out a line one day on her own. She also would like to try acting.

The teens are also taking a page from their older sisters by entering the publishing world. The Kardashian sisters have already released two books, a memoir and a novel. The Jenner sisters are writing a sci-fi, young adult book that's due out later this year.

One way they're not in a rush to emulate their sisters, though, is by starring in their own spin-off show.

"We're so young. I want to keep some part of my childhood private. I've been doing this since I was nine years old," said Kylie.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kendall and Kylie Jenner walk the runway at The Heart Truth 2013 Fashion Show at Hammerstein Ballroom on Feb. 6, 2013.

FRAZER HARRISON / GETTY IMAGES FOR HEART TRUTH / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Ottawa

Nicole, Student Age: 25

What she's wearing
Vintage hat, sunglasses from a market in South Korea, Costa Blanca jacket, vintage fur muff (worn as shawl), Coach bag, Guess jeans, The Bay boots.

Her inspiration
"I am inspired by creative individuals I see in everyday life. I love how different people can put together unique looks. I really love people- watching and get a lot of my style inspiration from that."

THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER: KATARINA KURUC, LOVEK.ORG

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You're most beautiful when you're comfortable!

A trio of looks from designer Melissa Nepton are seen during the Target Emerging Designer Award show at Montreal Fashion Week. TARGET-JIMMY HAMELIN / THE CANADIAN PRESS

This girl's on Target

One glam b-day gift. Designer presented opportunity to create line for fashion giant

Montreal designer Melissa Nepton capped off her 32nd birthday in grand fashion by winning $25,000, a magazine spread, and the chance to put her stylish stamp on a line for Target.

Nepton was crowned winner of the Target Emerging Designer Award during the closing night show of Montreal Fashion Week. The award is also linked to the Designers Fund, a joint initiative of Sensation Mode, the firm which organizes Montreal Fashion Week, and the Montreal Fashion Foundation.

Nepton was among a select group of up-and-coming Quebec designers competing for a chance to design a collection for Target stores opening in the province.

Award entrants were asked to provide a sample portfolio of three designs for men, women or both capturing the essence of a proposed fall-winter collection for Target. A panel of judges scored based on visual appearance, style, communication and marketability.

Nepton's pieces included a striped jersey dress, silk chiffon blouse and wool coat.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Eyes on the prize

- Nepton will create an apparel collection to be sold at Target's Quebec stores in 2014. The U.S. discount giant is set to open 25 stores across the province beginning this fall.
- Nepton will also be featured in Elle Quebec magazine. And she received a $25,000 grant, which she said she'll use for marketing for the runway and a lookbook.

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With all of the sweet and sticky candy and chocolate you may consume on V-Day, why not try something a bit lighter?

These brownies, which I created for the Mövenpick restaurant chain in Toronto, are only 140 calories and seven grams of fat per serving.

The cocoa, oil and yogurt that replace traditional butter and chocolate are the way to keep the calorie and fat count low.

If that's not enough to convince you to whip these up, consider that Mövenpick sells 1,500 of these brownies per month.

They're also now featured in my catering company and still rank as the number one dessert.

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Spray an 8-inch-square pan with cooking oil.

2. For the brownies, combine the sugar, oil, egg and vanilla in a bowl and mix well. Add the cocoa, mixing it in well. Add the flour, baking powder, yogurt and chocolate chips, mixing just until combined and smooth. Don't over mix.

3. Pour the batter into the prepared pan. Bake in the center of the oven for 15 to 20 minutes, just until set. Do not overbake. Cool on a rack for 15 minutes before icing.

4. To make the icing, place all the icing ingredients, except for the sugar, in a blender or food processor and process until smooth. Spread over the top of the brownies.

5. Cut into squares and garnish with a dusting of icing sugar, or drizzle melted dark and white chocolate overtop.

ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Ingredients

Prep time: 10 minutes
Bake time: 20 minutes

Brownies
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup low-fat yogurt or sour cream
- 1/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Icing
- 1/3 cup light cream cheese
- 2/3 cup icing sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 tsp water
- dusting of icing sugar

Triple Chocolate Brownies

This recipe serves 12. LORELLA ZANETTI, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

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Sara Jenkin's New Italian Pantry (iPad; $3.99)

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Be spontaneous, be inspired. With 16 key ingredients, Sara Jenkins will show you how to cook a variety of dishes on impulse. Imagine porchetta-style tuna, pan-roasted potatoes, or Spaghetti Cacio e Pepe.

Dessert. Chocolate Bark

1. Line rimmed baking sheet with waxed paper. Have all your bark toppings ready before melting chocolate. If your chocolate is in bars or large, thick pieces, use knife to carefully chop into small bits. Transfer chocolate to large glass measuring cup or bowl, then heat in microwave on medium, stopping to stir every 20 to 30 seconds, until melted.

2. Pour the chocolate onto the prepared pan, then tap the pan on the counter to level the melted chocolate. Immediately sprinkle your choice of toppings over the surface of the chocolate. Allow to cool completely and set up, then break into pieces.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

1 lb dark, milk or white chocolate
Topping Suggestions:
- Large-flake coconut, toasted sliced almonds, cocoa nibs
- Chopped dried cherries, shelled pistachios, chopped chocolate wafer cookies, large flake sea salt
- Crushed toffee pieces, toasted pumpkin seeds, chopped dried apricots

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CAN-C129-AD-130224

Not your grandpa's legendary Reuben

The legendary Reuben of yore was built on corned beef, but this recipe swaps it out in favour of smoked salmon.

And while it holds fast to the classic version's melted cheese, it loses the untoasted rye bread in favour of a grilled panini.

Unorthodox? Guilty as charged. Scrumptious anyway? See for yourself.

This recipes serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup low-fat mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp chili sauce (the kind served with shrimp cocktail)
- 2 tbsp finely chopped dill pickle
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 8 slices rye bread
- 4 oz thinly sliced Gruyere, fontina or Swiss cheese
- 4 oz thinly sliced smoked salmon
- 14 1/2-oz can sauerkraut, drained, rinsed and gently squeezed to remove excess liquid
- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

1. In a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, chili sauce, pickle and lemon juice. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

2. Spread one side of each slice of bread with some of the dressing. Arrange half of cheese on 4 of the slices. Divide the salmon, sauerkraut and remaining cheese among the cheese-topped slices of bread and top each with one of the remaining bread slices, spread side down.

3. In a large skillet over medium, heat the oil until hot. Add the sandwiches and something heavy (such as a cast iron skillet, flat saucepan lid, or heat-safe plate and a weight such as a can of food) to firmly press the sandwiches down. Cook for 6 minutes per side, or until golden and the cheese has melted. Cut each sandwich in half and serve right away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ SARA MOULTON, AUTHOR OF THREE COOKBOOKS, INCLUDING SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.

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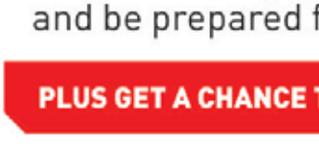

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Condo looks to hit the Mark

The Mark condominiums is 18-storeys in the Markham community. SUBMITTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** The Mark condominiums
- **Builder.** Empire Communities and Pace Developments Inc.
- **Location.** 9560 Markham Rd.
- **Website.** themarkcondos.ca
- **Sizes.** From 490 to 858 square feet
- **Pricing.** From $199,990 to $449,990

The project overview

This exceptional 18-storey, 220 suite mid-rise structure looks right at home in the charming Markham community. The striking eco-inspired building combines the best elements of contemporary art form. Suites include a balcony, nine foot ceilings and polished granite kitchen countertops.

Location and transit

Conveniently located at 9560 Markham Rd., near Bur Oak Avenue in Markham, across the street from the Mount Joy GO Station. Residents can be in downtown Toronto in less than 45 minutes. Just a short jaunt to Highway 407.

In the neighbourhood

An abundance of parklands, walking trails, sports fields and community centres. Other great neighbourhood features include reputable public schools, excellent restaurants, the renowned Angus Glen golf club and premier shopping at Markville Mall.

Building amenities

Professionally-equipped exercise room with weight-training and cardio equipment. A party room complete with kitchen, private dining space, wet bar and fireplace. There's a landscaped terrace with barbecues, dining areas, a pet spa and two guest suites.

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Rooftop Surfing

Working with Wynne

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta), (facebook.com/bildgta), and bildblogs.ca.

Earlier this week, Kathleen Wynne was sworn in as Ontario's 25th premier, announcing that she has some "serious work that must be done" in her new role.

BILD and our members are looking forward to working with the premier to address the challenges our industry is currently facing, as well as embrace the opportunities that come with them — employment growth, new infrastructure and consumer confidence in the strength and resiliency of the new homes market.

As a former Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Wynne has a distinct advantage of understanding the economic impact the building and development industry has on the city, region and province. Our association has worked with Wynne in her previous role and we hope to continue our strong relationship as we work together to build quality, affordable, complete communities in the GTA.

As we plan for 100,000 people and 50,000 new jobs that come to this region every year, we look forward to working with the premier to realign Places to Grow with the economic imperatives of the province.

I'm also excited to sit down with our new Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Glen Murray to discuss some of the challenges facing the GTA when it comes to transit. The expansion and inter-connectivity of transit and transportation in our region is much needed to create complete communities and our industry understands the importance of working with the minister to examine a fair and adequate strategy for transit funding.

Last, but certainly not least, BILD and the Ontario Home Builders' Association will look to work with the provincial government to address the complex issue of housing affordability for new home buyers. By amending public policy to allow wood-frame construction to buildings of up to six storeys, our industry can bring affordable mid-rise housing to the market in an effort to boost consumer confidence, particularly among first-time buyers.

What's hot on the condo market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. Etobicoke

Now previewing: Qube condos on The Queensway. 74 boutique suites. Presentation centre at 701 The Queensway.

CONTACT: CALL 647-351-7823 OR REGISTER AT QUBECONDOS.COM

2. North York

Grand Opening: TRIO at Atria. New presentation centre at 2255 Sheppard Ave. E., Unit 120, Feb. 16 to 17 from 12 to 6 p.m.

CONTACT: CALL 416-645-8866 OR VISIT TRIDEL.COM

3. Brampton

New Release: Spring Valley Homes in Brampton, singles and semis. Sales centre at 9226 Chinguacousy Rd.

CONTACT: CALL 905-457-3698 OR VISIT BALLANTRYHOMES.COM

4. Leslieville

Open House: Leslieville loft at the Garment Factory. One bedroom, one bath. 233 Carlaw Ave., Feb. 16 from 2 to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: CALL 416-465-7850

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Cleaning secrets

It's true: ketchup can be used to clean copper. ISTOCK IMAGES

Some people put ketchup on everything

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

Dear Mr. Butler,
My friend says that besides ketchup being a great condiment, you can use ketchup to clean metal. Is this true or is she pulling my leg?
-Ketchup Lover

Dear Ketchup Lover,
Your friend is correct. Ketchup is first and foremost a great condiment, but if used on copper it is a good cleaner for removing light tarnishing as well. This is how I have tried it in the past with great success: wash the copper pot using normal dish soap, dry, then take a liberal amount of ketchup and spread it all over the copper surface.

Let it stand for a good 20 to 30 minutes. Rinse with warm water and repeat if necessary. So why does this work? Well the magic is all in the ketchup.

It is actually the acid from the tomatoes that act as the cleaning agent. The myth is true!

Even you can have a stylish kitchen

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Trendy. Useful stylist tricks to make your kitchen look fabulous

With so many kitchens being designed smaller in size and open concept to fit our living spaces, it's important that they function well but look good at all times.

From someone who staged, propped and styled rooms for magazines and television shows for many years, here's a few stylist tricks to make your kitchen — no matter how large, small, high-end or low-end — look great at all times.

No faux pas

Mix artificial plants with real herbs/flowers. Every kitchen, no matter what size, needs a lush look. Adding real herbs and small plants with faux will extend the lush look long after the herbs have been used up and the next shopping day is near.

Tray it

Keep everyday items clustered on a tray. A tray filled with your morning French press, artificial sweeteners, bean grinder and your favourite mug will not only keep the counter looking tidy but keep you organized in the morning. Another tray with olive oils, dried herbs, vinegars, salt and pepper keeps the stove side organized for action.

Small scale

Look for space-saving countertop appliances in a small kitchen. Small and efficient appliances will save space and still offer up all the conveniences of a large kitchen.

Stand tall

Stand up trays, cutting boards and platters to hide unattractive backsplash. Choose fun shapes and trend-setting colours to help bring a boring kitchen to life. They even work standing up in the back of an open shelf or inside a glass-fronted cabinet. Got a really ugly backsplash? Try leaning a long dressing mirror horizontally across the back of the counter.

Repackage

Put packaged necessities in attractive display containers. Your favourite pasta, granola and espresso beans can be stored in decorative containers and displayed on the counter or behind glass doors.

Hint:
When displaying storage containers like baskets, jars or boxes, rely on the repeat method to help simplify the overall look. Using three to five of the same containers will allow a kitchen to look less eclectic.

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DIY condo sales: looking to skip agent fees?

For sale by owner. Selling your condo is the newest trend — and websites and companies are helping you make it happen

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister
life@metronews.ca

The term "for sale by owner" or FSBO is a new trend where private sellers decide to sell their own properties and bypass the services of a traditional real estate agent, as well as their commission fees.

In a typical real estate transaction, there is a five per cent commission on the value of the property.

This is usually split between the buyer's and seller's real estate agents. By selling your own property directly, you can eliminate one or both sides of the commission fee, which is 2.5 per cent. This can be a significant amount.

Until recently, the Canadian Real Estate Association controlled the content of the Multiple Listings Service. Discount brokers now make a lot of the information available on their web sites that was previously the exclusive domain of registered real estate agents.

The industry is changing and there are now several avenues available to the prospective seller to market their own property, from a simple Kijiji ad to full, web-based services. The Internet is a powerful tool that has transformed the business of buying and selling homes and condos.

One of the largest FSBO operations is Property Guys, with their distinctive round green and blue lawn signs.

They offer a number of different options and web-based tools that allow the individual property owner to sell their own home.

Gerry Pesut is a franchise owner and spokesman for Property Guys. He says the company is a typical entrepreneurial success story and started with selling the signs.

"Two university students, Ken LeBlanc and Jeremy Demont, while driving through Moncton, N.B., would continuously see these red and black for-sale signs," explains Pesut. "The physical signs of the time came from Canadian Tire and one day they decided that there had to be a better way. They started selling signs to the people that have these red and black signs. And from that they grew this company where it is today."

Pesut says that Property Guys is the most recognized and fastest-growing real estate marketing and network company in North America, serving 600 communities with over 110 offices across Canada.

That certainly says something about the popularity of FSBO.

"We're not agents or brokers. We're a marketing solutions company. We spend some time educating our sellers how to cooperate with the agent. So the buyer's agent is going to get paid if he brings us a buyer to the property," explains Pesut.

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Selling your condo? There are now several avenues for the prospective seller to market their own property. ISTOCK IMAGES

Rebate debate

HST woes

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

I purchased a condo last year for which I had signed the initial documents a few years ago.

I was anxious to get into the real estate market and was living at home with my parents when I put down the initial deposit. I continued to put down the required deposits but by the time the final closing had arrived, I was engaged and we thought to live at my fiancé's condo and to rent out the condo I had purchased.

The transaction for the new condo closed. I have recently received a letter from Revenue Canada requesting that I prove that the condo I purchased is my primary residence, otherwise the H.S.T. rebate that I claimed on closing can be clawed back. What should I do?

The Canadian government generously provides an H.S.T. rebate on newly built condos and homes that are being purchased as a primary residence.

When you signed the closing documents with your lawyer, you signed a declaration that you were going to use the property as a primary residence.

If you chose to do otherwise, your lawyer has no control over that decision, but Revenue Canada is being a lot more diligent about proof of primary residence.

They are finding a lot of purchasers who are buying condos for investment purposes who claim primary residential status and have no intention of doing so.

This is a slippery slope that you should avoid because along with being faced with refunding the monies to CRA, you may be subject to penalties and fines.

Follow Jeff Cowan on Twitter @Cowan_Law or on the website at cowanlaw.ca

STOP HAIR LOSS

for MEN and for WOMEN

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Hair Grow Technology's Bio-Fen® product line is continually moving forward! We are introducing our two latest versions; **Bio-Fen® Plus for Men** and **Bio-Fen® Plus for Women**. These products have been assigned Natural Product Numbers (NPN's) by Health Canada.

We recognize that both men and women experience androgenic alopecia (AGA, or male / female pattern baldness) and have made some improvements to the original formulation based on the latest science to address their specific needs. You will notice that we now have additional complementary (Health Canada Approved) health claims on each product.

How does Bio-Fen® PLUS work?

We are bringing you two new products with **double** the number of capsules and **triple** the number of health claims for men and **four times** the number of health claims for women.

As in the previous formulation, the fenugreek seed extract in both new formulas reduces excess blood lipid levels (hyperlipidemia). Fenugreek contains β-sitosterol, an active plant sterol, which has been shown to inhibit 5-alpha-reductase activity – the enzyme responsible for converting excess testosterone to *DHT* (which is the primary molecule that causes hair loss). The SDG (secoisolariciresinol diglucoside) from flax lignans in both formulas also decreases excess cholesterol - the building block of testosterone. Based on new research on the rate of metabolism of SDG in flax lignans (8-12 hours on average), the dosage in both products has been revised from once a day to twice a day for optimum results.

Twice the Strength! Twice the Power!

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men:

As before, the saw palmetto extract inhibits the enzyme 5-alpha reductase, and this action slows down the conversion of testosterone to dihydrotestosterone (or DHT) – the overabundance of which causes the miniaturization of hair follicles. This activity of the saw palmetto also helps to relieve the urinary symptoms of mild to moderate BPH for men.

The saw palmetto that originally was an extract standardized to 45% free fatty acids, esters, and sterols while the new formula is a 4:1 extract to support the BPH claim. The product still contains these molecules for hair loss, but they are now at proprietary amounts based on our research so that the competition cannot duplicate our formula.

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men will also help to:

- ***Relieve the urologic symptoms associated with mild to moderate benign prostatic hyperplasia - BPH (e.g. weak urine flow, incomplete voiding, frequent daytime and night time urination).***
- ***Reduce elevated blood lipid levels / hyperlipidemia.***

Bio-Fen® Plus for Women

The women's formula is almost the same as the men's formula. The mechanisms and results for the women formula is the same. The only difference is it contains silicon and iron instead of saw palmetto. Silicon has been shown to contribute to hair shaft strength and thus healthy hair growth. It also contains iron which helps prevent iron deficiency. A number of studies have related sub-clinical iron deficiency in women to diffuse hair loss/alopecia.

The increased amount of SDG and other revisions to the regulations allow us to make some additional health claims for *Bio-Fen® Plus for Women*.

Bio-Fen® Plus for Women will also help to:

- ***Reduce elevated blood lipid levels/hyperlipidemia***
- ***Prevent iron deficiency.***
- ***Metabolize carbohydrates, fats and proteins.***

How long must I use Bio-Fen® Plus?

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men capsules are usually effective at stopping hair loss within the first two months. However, since healthy hair grows only about 1 cm each month, it may take up to three months before you notice that hair growth is increased or the rate of hair loss is decreased. Anyone experiencing new growth should see it within four months. In some people the original pigmentation may come back. Once you stop completely your hair growth pattern will slowly go back to the point where you started. However, some people may be able to go with a lower maintenance dose.

What is the quality of Bio-Fen® Plus for Men?

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men is manufactured in Canada according to quality assurance specifications called Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP). This ensures that the ingredients are tested for their level of quality, potency & purity, prior to production and the finished product prior to sale.

Hair Grow Technology (Bio-Fen® Plus) is a progressive company - we continually seek out the latest research on bioactive ingredients, and on regulatory updates in the natural health products industry.

See our website to locate your nearest store that carries *Bio-Fen® Plus*.

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Each coupon is valid for one bottle of Bio-Fen® Plus for Men or Bio-Fen® Plus for Women. Valid one coupon per bottle. Coupon is void when reproduced or altered in anyway. Coupon expires on March 31, 2013. Retailers must submit all coupons for reimbursement to Hair Grow Technology within 30 days after the expiration date. Redeemed coupons must be accompanied with a copy of the purchased receipt.

Members of the Toronto Blue Jays coaching staff watch as pitcher R.A. Dickey delivers a pitch in Dunedin, Fla., on Wednesday. Dickey's knuckleball has the ability to mesmerize batters and handcuff catchers. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dickey helping catchers get a grip

MLB. When handling Cy Young winner's knuckleball, all you can do is try your best and guess where it's going, teammate says

When knuckleballer R.A. Dickey joins a new club, he comes bearing gifts. Special catcher's mitts, courtesy of Rawlings.

But even with the bigger glove, Blue Jays catcher Josh Thole says hanging on to one of Dickey's deliveries is a challenge.

"We have no idea where it's going," said Thole, who came over with Dickey in a December trade from the Mets. "We can give it our best shot and I can guess, like I do half the time. But a lot of times, having the bigger glove helps."

The glove is also padded more, which helps when you're trying to snag a ball with a mind of its own. Just catching it is a success, never mind finding the sweet spot of the glove.

"Rawlings sends him loads of them," said Thole. "He just hands them out to all the catchers and lets them break them in and kind of play with them a bit."

Thole, 26, remembers his first attempt at catching Dickey. It was 2010 in the Mets bullpen and he didn't look very good.

"I missed the first three balls in front of the manager, the general manager and the owner of the team," he said. "I feel definitely like I've come a long way (since)."

Dickey's knuckleball is unique in that he throws it harder — at about 77 m.p.h. — than traditional practitioners of the floating pitch. And he has a few other pitches to help set it up.

That combination carried Dickey to the National League Cy Young Award last year when he went 20-6 with a 2.73 earned run average. He led the NL in innings (233 2/3), strikeouts (230), complete games (5) and shutouts (3).

Dickey's knuckleball is so deceptive that Dane Johnson, a minor-league pitching coordinator for the Jays, had a tough time hauling it in even when Dickey announced it before throwing it as they tossed the ball around in the outfield earlier this week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Who will catch Dickey?

Following Wednesday's session, incumbent catcher J.P. Arencibia reminded the watching media that he had not missed a single delivery from R.A. Dickey.

- With Arencibia and Dickey both headed to the U.S. team at the World Baseball Classic, manager John Gibbons has no problem with his No. 1 catcher handling Dickey at this stage of camp.
- The Jays' other catchers, Josh Thole, Henry Blanco and Mike Nickeas, have all worked with Dickey in the past.

CFL

Argos extend offers to Kackert and Foley

They were the Grey Cup MVPs and the game's top Canadians but the clock is ticking on whether running back Chad Kackert and defensive end Ricky Foley will re-sign with the Toronto Argonauts or test the CFL free-agent waters.

Argos general manager Jim Barker wants both players to help Toronto defend its crown and has made offers to them. But he says the ball is in their court now with the CFL's free-agent deadline of noon ET on Friday looming. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics

Rogge to meet wrestling leader

Facing a wave of criticism from around the world, IOC president Jacques Rogge will meet with the head of wrestling's governing body to discuss ways the sport can fight to save its place in the Olympics.

The IOC executive board dropped wrestling from the program of the 2020 Games on Tuesday, a decision which brought a sharp backlash from wrestling organizations and national Olympic bodies around the world — including Canada, the United States, Russia and Iran.

The move must still be ratified by the full International Olympic Committee in September, giving wrestling time to try to overturn a decision against a sport which dates back to the ancient Olympics and has been featured since the inaugural modern games in 1896. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agitator Komarov making Leafs better

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Adam Proteau
toronto@metronews.ca

Leo Komarov is far from a household name in Toronto right now, but if the feelings Maple Leafs management has for the human buzz saw of a left winger are any indication, he is going to be beloved by Buds fans in the very near future.

Now, it's clear Torontonians love all Leafs regardless of their individual style of game. But there's always a little extra cheer at the Air Canada Centre for the plucky, undersized player who skates around as though he is five feet taller than anyone on the ice. Think Tie Domi. Think Darcy Tucker. Think of something you'd call arrogance if you saw it on a team you hated, but the same thing you'd call confidence if you saw it from your favourite team.

That's the essence of Komarov. If you're a Leafs fan, you see how he enrages

Leo Komarov GETTY IMAGES FILE

his opponents and it makes you feel fantastic. You see him skate without fear and at top speed into the corners and you think, finally, this Toronto team has a player willing to fight for the puck without regard for his personal well being. And you hope that attitude rubs off on his teammates.

The Leafs have played only 13 games this season, but already there have been nights where Komarov had an entire opposing team wanting to roast him on a spit and feed him to the wolves. You can see why: he'll lay into a player with a massive bodycheck, and when that player takes offence and tries engaging Komarov in some verbal and/or physical sparring, Komarov will have none of it. His mind is already back into the play. That alone enrages the opposition.

He's the same when dealing with reporters. The 26-year-old is actually quite worldly — the native Finn speaks Finnish, English, Russian and Swedish — but Komarov is all business with the media. He is a character, but isn't out to promote a character.

The argument has been made that the Leafs are better this year because of tough guys like Colton Orr and Frazer McLaren. That's wrong. Komarov has made the Leafs tougher, because there's not much that's tougher than playing like you don't give a damn.

And Leo Komarov clearly doesn't have one to give.

NHL

Frattin joins Reimer on IR

Maple Leafs forward Matt Frattin will be lost at least a week — probably longer — after the team discovered he needed surgery to repair a ligament in his knee.

Frattin joins James Reimer on the injured list. Reimer also hurt his medial collateral ligament.

"He had an issue with his MCL and it's something that has flared up," said Leafs coach Randy Carlyle. "It's not something the doctors feel will be a long-term thing, but it's something for us that is a concern."

Carlyle suggested Frattin — who was to go under the knife as early as Tuesday — might have been able to play through the injury, but the team decided against it.

Jay McClement is expected to take Frattin's spot on the a line with Nazem Kadri and Clarke MacArthur.

Frattin had been on fire — seven goals in 10 games — since his recall from the AHL Marlies.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Curling. Homan setting sights on Scotties title

Ontario skip Rachel Homan showed in her first appearance at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts that she could hang with the top rinks from around the country.

She's set to make a return appearance at the Canadian women's curling championship, which kicks off Saturday in Kingston, Ont., and hopes to make more than just a playoff appearance this time around.

"We've been there before and we made it all the way to the semis our first time," Homan said of her 2011 showing. "I think this time our team has grown a bit, has got more experience and we expect to be right there hopefully battling in the final if we can."

At 23, the Ottawa skip is one of the best young players in the game. Her rink of third Emma Miskew, second Alison Kreviazuk and lead Lisa Weagle holds the third spot in the Canadian Team Ranking System.

Homan will also have a supportive Ontario crowd on her side when play begins at the K-Rock Centre. There are several experienced skips in the 12-rink competition, including defending champ Heather Nedohin of Alberta, B.C.'s Kelly Scott, Manitoba's Jennifer Jones and Nova Scotia's Mary-Anne Arsenault.

"It looks like a really tough field," Homan said. "Lots of teams with lots of experience, a lot more years than us. But we've had our fair share of finals and playoffs and TV games and things like that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

At metronews.ca

- With Rudy Gay making clutch shots, the Toronto Raptors are making a mid-season push.
- Visit metronews.ca/sports for the results of last night's game, as the Raptors faced the New York Knicks looking for a fourth straight win.

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Detective Epicene's Clue-of-the-Day: "Jarod Kintz says we can't be lovers because we both have mustaches, but since you're a lady, he'll shave his off."

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
It doesn't matter what you do today so long as you do something. If you sit still for more than a minute this morning, you may not get up again until the evening — and only to go back to bed.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There is no point trying to judge people by your own standards. They will never match up. The best you can hope for, today and any other day, is that they learn from your good example. So go on, be one.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
The more others try to get you to change, the more you should stick with what you know and trust. No doubt they will come up with all sorts of reasons why you should take a risk, but don't do it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
What sounds like bad news is nothing of the sort. Chances are you are looking at it from completely the wrong angle. Facts are facts, of course, but even facts can sometimes be open to interpretation.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You are not the sort to give up just because you failed at something once. Yes, you may be annoyed that you did not do a project justice, but there is still plenty of time to do it again and do it right.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
There is something you have to do today and even though it may be a total bore you know that until you see it through to completion partners and colleagues won't give you a moment's peace. Get started on it now.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may hear a few whispers or rumours today, most likely about someone you like. You are advised to ignore them. Most likely, it is just nasty he said, she said. Even if it is true, it's still nothing to do with you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't cut any corners today because someone important is watching and they will make a big deal of it. It may be that you have to do a lot of work for very little profit, but sometimes that's just how it is.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You don't have to put up with people who waste your precious time on trivial things. Tell them where to go today, and say it in a way that makes it clear you mean it.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may be eager to make changes but you won't be able to push partners faster than they want to go today. Which begs the question: Have you signed up with the wrong partners? Give it some thought.

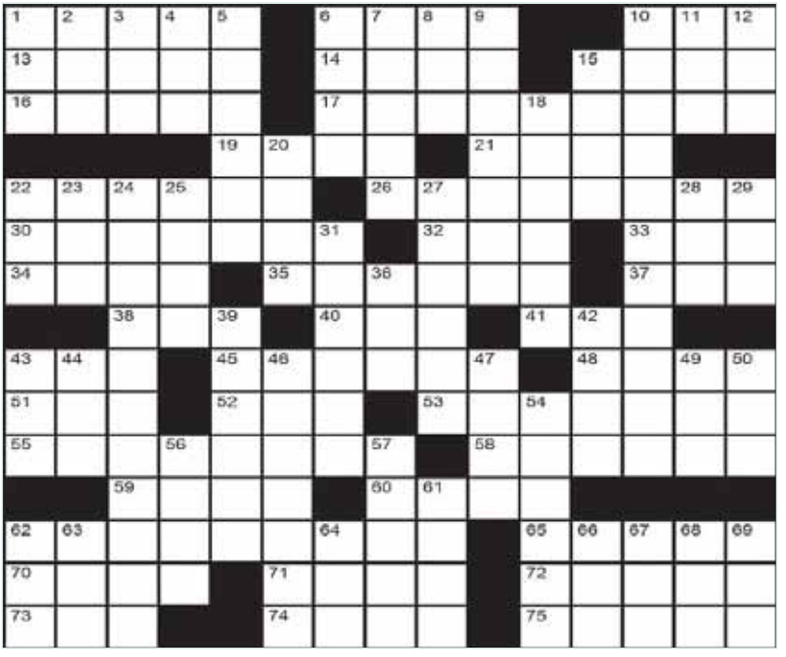
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
No matter how hard you try to persuade a friend or work colleague to see things your way, it just isn't going to happen, so give up. It's true, you know, some people are almost as stubborn as you!

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Other people may be selfish and put their own interests first but not you. With Mars, Mercury and Neptune all moving through your sign, you know it pays to be generous. The more you give now, the more you'll get later.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

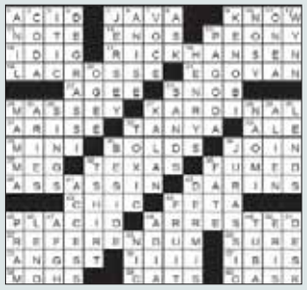
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Valentine's Day icon
6. "Rich Bride __ Bride" on Slice
10. Sisqo's group, __ Hill
13. Popeye's beloved
14. Sparkling wine city of Italy
15. Italian car manufacturer
16. Actress Kathy
17. Valentine's gift
19. Speck
21. Khloe Kardashian's husband, Lamar __
22. James Blunt album: 'Back to __'
26. Rocky sun-orbiter
30. Versus
32. Extra sports periods, for short
33. Perfume by Cacharel
34. Explosive star
35. Eucalyptus eaters
37. Horse coat hue
38. Bug
40. Deli bread
41. Nav. rank
43. Misfire
45. "That's being taken care of by me, boss!": 3 wds.
48. Isn't, wrong-style
51.Cute bark
52. 'Alma' add-on (Facts reference book)
53. Taylor of 'Twilight' flicks
55. __ Gold Rush
58. Canadian auto service company
59. Shaker stuff
60. Gardening tool
62. Emily Bronte's __ Heights
65. Himalayas land
70. Chemical suffixes
71. 'Susp' add-on
72. Curtain
73. Val-_'__, Quebec
74. Investigators, for short
75. "When Harry Met __..." (1989)

Down
1. Corn on the __
2. Suffix with 'Form'
3. Peach part
4. 'Excess' suffix
5. Canadian singer Shawn
6. Agreement
7. "Romeo and Juliet" (1968) actor Milo
8. Prefix that means 'Ear'
9. Cheese in lasagna
10. Blue Rodeo hit that goes "...our love shines like a...": 2 wds.
11. Alleyway animal
12. Sport-__ (Versatile vehicle)
15. Flower: Spanish
18. Ukraine port city
20. City of Russia
22. Ray-__ (Sunglasses maker)
23. Kind of boost
24. Grammy-winning record producer born in Victoria: 2 wds.
25. 1997 Jim Carrey comedy, when doubled
27. Cirque du __
28. Indebted one's letters
29. Mr. Aykroyd
31. "For Those About __ __ (We Salute You)" by AC/DC
36. Novelist Ms. Rand
39. Amazon e-book reader
42. Court
43. Fargo, North __.
44. www address
46. __ _' (Restaurant occupation)
47. Chore
49. "Waking __ Devine" (1998)
50. Otis Redding song: "__ a Little Tenderness"
54. Overturns
56. Nopes
57. Surrealist artist Max
61. 'Band' suffix (Medical supplies)
62. Tie the knot
63. Numero __
64. 'Benedict' suffix
66. Baseball pitcher's stat.
67. Chum
68. Fergie's bandmate, __.de.ap
69. Grassy field

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

		9	8	4		2		6
1		7	3					9
	6							
3		1			8			
		8				6		
			2			4		1
							9	
2					5	1		8
8		5		1	7	3		

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	9	7	8	1	5	4	3
5	1	3	6	4	9	2	8	7
8	7	4	2	3	5	9	1	6
1	9	7	3	2	8	4	6	5
4	5	2	9	7	6	8	3	1
3	8	6	1	5	4	7	2	9
2	6	1	4	9	7	3	5	8
7	3	5	8	1	2	6	9	4
9	4	8	5	6	3	1	7	2

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For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. *Offer applies to the purchase of 2013 Chevrolet Cruze LS G-BBPB/Spark LS G-BGP4/Equinox LS FWD G-BBQG/Trax LS FWD 1SA). ▼Based on a 60/48 month lease for 2013 Chevrolet Cruze LS G-BBPB/Equinox LS FWD G-BBQG). Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $0/$2,850 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $10,439/$10,654. Option to purchase at lease end is $8,956/$12,006. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. 10.99%/0%/2.99% purchase financing offered by GMCL for 84/72/84 months on 2013 Chevrolet Equinox LS FWD G-BBQG/Silverado 1500 LS Ext. Cab 4WD G-BBQN/Trax LS FWD 1SA). O.A.C. by RBC Royal Bank/TD Auto Finance Services/Scotiabank. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $30,000 at 0.99%/0%/2.99% APR, monthly payment is $323.27/$138.89/$132.09 for 84/72/84 months. Cost of borrowing is $354.68/$0/$1,095.56, total obligation is $30,354.68/$30,000/$30,995.56. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly/Bi-weekly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Monthly/Bi-weekly payments based on a purchase price of $27,995/$19,988 with $0 down payment. ◆$7,000 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2013 Silverado 1500 Ext. & Crew Cab and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ^/▼/●Freight & PDI ($1,550/$1,500/$1,850/$1,600/$1,550), registration, air and tire levies and GMVIC fees included. Insurance, license, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2013 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ***Factory order or dealer trade may be required. ◆Based on WardsAuto.com 2012 Upper Small segment, excluding Hybrid and Diesel powertrains. Standard 10 airbags. ABS, traction control and StabiliTrak®. ~Based on Spark LS and current information at time of print of 2013 model year vehicles sold in Canada. MSRP - Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ©The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ®Bluetooth is a registered trademark of Bluetooth SIG Inc. ◆Comparison based on 2012 Wards segmentation's Middle/Cross Utility Vehicle and latest competitive data available and based on the maximum segment available. Excludes other GM brands. ††2013 Cruze LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies $28,139. 2013 Equinox LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies $37,699. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ¥ Valid at participating GM dealerships in Canada only. Retail customers only. Offer ranges from 750 to 3,000 AIR MILES® reward miles, depending on model purchased. No cash value. Offer may not be combined with certain other AIR MILES promotions or offers. See your participating GM dealer for details. Offer expires February 28, 2013. Please allow 4–6 weeks after the Offer end date for reward miles to be deposited to your AIR MILES® Collector Account. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate this Offer for any reason in whole or in part at any time without notice. Miles are issued by LoyaltyOne, Inc. and are subject to the terms and conditions of the AIR MILES Reward Program. ®/™Trademarks of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by LoyaltyOne, Inc. and General Motors of Canada Limited

AutoShow. Celebrating its 40th anniversary

The 2013 Canadian International AutoShow (CIAS) marks the 40th anniversary of the biggest auto show in Canada. It attracts more than 300,000 people, is spread out over 600,000 square feet and features more than 1,000 new cars and light trucks.

Here are some special features of the show, which runs from Feb. 15-24 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre:

The Canadian International AutoShow is expected to attract more than 300,000 people from Feb. 14-25. CONTRIBUTED

The Eco-Drive Showcase is a popular feature and presents an array of clean fuel-efficient vehicles and technologies that are on the market now, or coming soon. CONTRIBUTED

Cruise Nationals

There were 60 entrees for the Cruise Nationals competition. They came together at the eighth annual season finale at Lakeview Park in Oshawa. The 10 finalists selected at this finale will be competing for top honours at the CIAS.

Auto Exotica

Exotics have always been a major attraction and this year is no different. Ferrari, Lamborghini, Lotus, Aston Martin, Bentley, Fisker and Rolls-Royce are all featured in an elegantly appointed area.

Eco-Drive Showcase

Eco-Drive Showcase is a popular feature and presents an array of clean fuel-efficient vehicles and technologies that are on the market now, or coming soon, from hybrids to battery-electric drive trains

Hot Rod Builders Showcase

For up to 100 years, automotive design has been at the height of interest for automotive enthusiasts. The CIAS celebrates that enthusiasm with a feature exhibiting original customized cars and trucks, and the Canadians who built them.

Sport Compact Revolution

See an exciting automotive showcase that recognizes the transformation of the sport compact car from revolution to evolution.

Volkswagen Children's Playcare Centre

If you need professional daycare for free, the Volkswagen Children's Playcare Centre includes a number of activities designed to keep children engaged, including face painting, colouring, dress-up, and more. METRO NEWS SERVICES

"Tag I'm it, it's my turn to play!"

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INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW FUN TO DRIVE 2013 RAV4

With a bold, athletic exterior profile and new rear liftgate design, RAV4 is sure to attract attention. Its premium interior with available French stitching keeps everyone in both comfort and luxury. If you're moving large items from A to B, fold down the rear seats and enjoy RAV4's versatile class-leading cargo space[1]. Speaking of A to B, an available 6.1" Display Audio System with Navigation helps make sure you know where you're going. And with a class-leading 8 airbags[1], an available Blind Spot Monitor System, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and Lane Departure Alert[2], the All-New RAV4 helps get you there safely. It's not just another vehicle, it's the All-New 2013 RAV4. Experience the All-New 2013 RAV4 first hand at the Toronto Auto Show. Visit the Toyota exhibit, located in the South building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

TOYOTA

toyota.ca

[1]With rear seats folded down. Class is 5-seat Compact SUV. [2]Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and Lane Departure Alert are driver assist devices only and are not a substitute for safe and attentive driving practices.

Chrysler SRT Viper. CONTRIBUTED

Mazda6 SKYACTIV-D. CONTRIBUTED

Ford Fiesta ST. CONTRIBUTED

New vehicles make shopping easy

Here are some of the new vehicles featured at the 2013 Canadian International Auto Show (CIAS) at Metro Toronto Convention Centre from Feb. 15-24. This is your chance to sit in them, look under the hood and see if it fits your family and lifestyle.

AUDI

2014 Audi R8

Audi is making its R8 high-performance sports car sharper and more attractive than ever. The S tronic makes its debut in the series, which is now topped by the new R8 V10 plus.

BMW

MINI GP

The MINI John Cooper Works GP is a limited production (50 for Canada) ultra-high-performance member of the MINI family reflecting MINI's extensive racing heritage. The fastest production version of the MINI ever built, the GP is powered by a twin-scroll turbocharged engine with an output of 211 horsepower and 192 pound-feet of torque.

BMW 7 Series Individual Limited Edition

The BMW Individual program offers the most demanding customers a plethora of unique and exclusive options to personalize their BMW. At the 2013 CIAS, BMW will unveil the 7 Series Individual Limited Edition, an exclusive version of the 750iL xDrive, which will showcase a rich combination of spectacular exterior colour.

CHRYSLER

2013 SRT Viper

The all-new 2013 SRT Viper makes its highly anticipated return to the high-performance sports car market. Canadian driving enthusiasts will truly enjoy this iconic two-seat supercar.

2013 Ram 3500 Heavy Duty

Canada's longest-lasting and bestselling diesel pickup truck is setting new benchmarks in capability, achieving a best-in-class 13,608-kilogram (30,000-pound) trailer towing capacity thanks in large part to a new high-strength steel frame and an upgraded 6.7-litre Cummins Turbo Diesel engine with a best-in-class 850 pound-feet of torque.

FORD

Ford Fiesta ST

The bold new 2014 Fiesta ST combines an aggressive, muscular and sporty design with a dynamic sports chassis and a 1.6L EcoBoost engine producing nearly 200 horsepower.

Ford Transit

All-new 2014 Ford Transit joins the bestselling lineup of commercial vehicles, giving customers unmatched fuel economy and the segment's lowest cost of ownership.

GENERAL MOTORS

2014 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray

Chevrolet is redefining modern performance with the debut of the all-new Corvette Stingray. The 2014 Corvette Stingray is the most powerful standard model ever, with an estimated 450 horsepower (335 kW) and 450 pound-feet of torque. It is also the most capable standard model ever, able to accelerate from 0-60 mph in less than four seconds.

2014 Chevrolet Spark EV

The 2014 Chevrolet Spark EV, introduced for the first time in Canada at the CIAS, packs smart performance and connectivity technologies into an affordable five-door urban mini car designed to make the trip as electrifying as the destination.

BMW MINI GP. CONTRIBUTED

Mercedes-Benz smart forstars. CONTRIBUTED

Honda Accord Plug-in Hybrid Sedan. CONTRIBUTED

HONDA

Honda Accord Plug-in Hybrid

The Honda Accord Plug-in Hybrid Sedan (PHEV) will provide the athleticism and craftsmanship of the all-new Accord platform, charged with a remarkable dose of hybrid efficiency and electric torque. The Accord Plug-in Hybrid Sedan will offer premium technology and exceptional cabin space, all while earning the highest EPA MPGe rating in its class (115 MPGe).

KIA

2014 Rondo

The all-new 2014 Rondo, which will have its North American reveal at the CIAS, is a masterpiece of automotive design and city-smart thinking. Its styling is perfectly proportioned — from the sophisticated front-end look to the sporty profile that flows into a rear end with a wide, easy-opening tailgate. Inside, a flexible interior with flat-folding seats handles whatever combination of passengers or people you need to carry.

JAGUAR

Jaguar XFR-S

Making its only Canadian show appearance at the CIAS, the XFR-S model is the fastest and most powerful sedan Jaguar has ever produced. This is the second model in the ultra-high performance R-S range, with just 100 sedans being offered for the 2014 model year in the U.S. market and only 20 in the Canadian market — making it one of the most exclusive Jaguar models ever.

MASERATI

Maserati Quattroporte

Maserati has plans to transcend its present status as a niche sports/luxury car builder and become a higher-volume player along the lines of Porsche, with annual production in the order of 50,000 units per year by 2015. The transformation begins with the introduction of the all-new 2013 Maserati Quattroporte. The new sixth-generation Quattroporte combines some design features from its immediate predecessor — the grille, three side vents and triangular C-pillar — with a strong new belt-line, frameless doors and three side windows.

MAZDA

2014 Mazda6 SKYACTIV-D Clean Diesel

The 2014 Mazda6 powered by an all-new SKYACTIV-D clean diesel engine will represent the first Japanese modern-technology clean-diesel engine on sale in Canada in a non-commercial vehicle. Available with a six-speed manual or automatic transmission, the high output turbo-diesel will provide powerful and responsive acceleration, incredible fuel economy, and meet all North American emissions standards.

MERCEDES-BENZ

smart forstars

The smart forstars joins the series of clever concept vehicles designed by smart and offers a glimpse into the future design language of the brand. The electrically driven smart forstars is an SUC (Sports Utility Coupe) with room for two people and plenty of storage space. Its name references the glass dome above the passengers that gives a clear view of the sky.

MITSUBISHI

2014 Mitsubishi Outlander

Sporting a fresh new look, interior design and a suite of advanced safety technologies, the 2014 Mitsubishi Outlander compact sport utility makes its Canadian debut at the CIAS. The new generation Mitsubishi Outlander radiates quality and comfort like never before and will boast class-leading fuel economy.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jaguar XFR-S. CONTRIBUTED

Mitsubishi Outlander. CONTRIBUTED

Audi R8. CONTRIBUTED

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™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2013 Sonata GL Auto with an annual finance rate of 0% for 72 months. Bi-weekly payments are $164. No down payment required. Cost of Borrowing is $0. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,565 fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Finance Offers exclude registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2013 Sonata GL Auto for $25,700 at 0% per annum equals $164 bi-weekly for 72 months for a total obligation of $25,700. Cash price is $25,700. Cost of Borrowing is $0. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,565, fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Example price excludes registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ▼Fuel consumption for 2013 Sonata GL Auto (HWY 5.6L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM) are based on Manufacturer Testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ♦Price of models shown 2013 Sonata Limited is $30,700. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of $1,565, fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Prices exclude registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. ††♦Offers available for a limited time, and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ◊Based on Natural Resource Canada's 2012 ecoEnergy award for most fuel efficient full-size car. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). ††7 year/120,000 km warranty consists of 5 year/100,000km Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage and an additional 2 year/20,000km coverage under the Hyundai Protection Plan. Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. Coverage under the Hyundai Protection Plan is subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your local dealer for all details. 7 Year/120,000 km warranty available on all 2013 Sonata models except Hybrid. *Customers who finance the purchase of a new 2013 Sonata model through RBC or Scotiabank's promotional or Smart rate loan programs (Scotia Dealer Advantage non-prime excluded) are eligible to return the vehicle to the selling dealer between 7-30 days of delivery to obtain a full refund. To be eligible, purchasers must show a valid sale or conditional sale agreement for the purchase of another new automobile, vehicle odometer must not exceed 2,000 km on the date of return, and any vehicle damage must not exceed $400.00 (purchaser responsible for damage). Any trade-in vehicle will not be returned to purchaser. Cash deals are excluded. Other conditions and restrictions apply. Please see your dealer for details.

Showcasing imagination

Concept cars. Looking ahead to the future

The 2013 Canadian International AutoShow is the place to check out new styling and technology from auto manufacturers.

Mercedes-Benz Concept Style Coupe. CONTRIBUTED

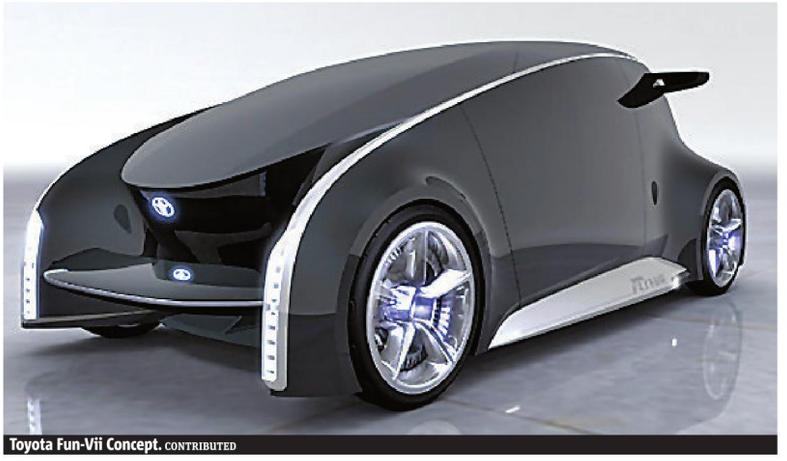
Lexus LF-CC. CONTRIBUTED

HONDA
Urban SUV Concept
The Urban SUV Concept is intended to provide the basis for a fun-to-drive and fuel-efficient small SUV with aspirational design, flexible packaging and next-generation connectivity targeting active lifestyle customers. The concept showcases clean and sophisticated styling, dynamic character lines and a strong stance, with hidden rear door handles giving the SUV a coupe-like presence.

ACURA
Acura NSX Concept
The new Acura NSX Concept is based on the expected underpinnings of the vehicle Acura will bring to market. Still, the new NSX Concept maintains its low and wide stance with the dynamic and alluring proportions that debuted in the original NSX Concept at the 2012 North American International Auto Show — highlighted by clean, modern and simple surfacing, and edgy details that communicate supercar attitude and a high-tech feel. The new NSX Concept also features a first-ever look at one potential direction for the next-generation Acura NSX interior design. The design concept is founded on a "Human Support Cockpit" theme, a strong expression of Acura's product direction focused on "the synergy between man and machine." The interior package boasts outstanding visibility, an exotic driving position, and an intuitive "Simple Sports Interface" that minimizes interior clutter, allowing the driver to focus on the driving experience.

HYUNDAI
Hyundai Genesis Concept
Hyundai will present the Genesis Concept in a Canadian premiere during the 2013 Canadian International AutoShow. The company's designers took the opportunity to create a wild, futuristic package that ignored the typical rules and restraints of vehicle manufacturing in order to explore what a luxury sedan from Hyundai could look like.

MERCEDES-BENZ
Mercedes-Benz Concept Style Coupe
The Concept Style Coupe is a clear statement of expressive, avant-garde design. This sporty four-door coupe offers insight into the design direction for an upcoming addition to the Mercedes-Benz vehicle range, combining the streamlined design of a sports car with the practicality of a sedan.


Toyota Fun-Vii Concept. CONTRIBUTED

TOYOTA
Toyota Fun-Vii Concept
The Toyota Fun-Vii is a concept vehicle that heralds a not-too-distant future where people, cars and society are linked. The Fun-Vii is engineered to be able to connect wireless with the infrastructure and surrounding streets. "Vii" is an abbreviation for vehicle, interactive, Internet. Recognizing the consumer's desire for personalization, Toyota has developed a concept vehicle that offers the ability to alter the content displayed on the interior and exterior of the Fun-Vii with ease.

LEXUS
Lexus LF-CC
The LF-CC makes its Canadian debut at the Canadian International AutoShow and exemplifies the latest evolution of the Lexus design. This stunning, concept compact rear-wheel drive has an all-new, highly efficient, 2.5-litre full hybrid powertrain and reinforces Lexus' commitment to create more engaging, inspirational vehicles through design, a superior driving experience and advanced technologies.

Hyundai Genesis Concept. CONTRIBUTED

Acura NSX Concept. CONTRIBUTED

Lexus LF-LC
Beauty and design come together in the stunning LF-LC. The LF-LC holds a suite of advanced materials and technologies, including lightweight carbon fibre and the next generation of Lexus' industry-leading hybrid powertrain. Imagined and created at the Calty Design Center in Newport Beach, Calif., this vehicle features a dynamic profile that emphasizes direction and motion.

VOLKSWAGEN
Cross Coupe Concept
Based on Volkswagen's new Modular Transverse Matrix, the Cross Coupe showcases styling elements that will make their way onto new Volkswagen crossovers. Powered by a combination of TDI Clean Diesel technology and twin electric motors, the Cross Coupe delivers 306 horsepower at a fuel consumption rate of just 1.8L/100km.

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Concept cars What's new Attractions

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Limited model shown

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